

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request	
Name Of Project		Federal Agency Involved	
Proposed Land Use		County And State	
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS	
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply -- do not complete additional parts of this form).		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Acres Irrigated
Major Crops)		Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: %	Average Farm Size
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used		Name Of Local Site Assessment System	Amount Of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres:
			Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS
PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Site Rating	
		Site A	Site B
		Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly			
C. Total Acres In Site			
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information			
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland			
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland			
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted			
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value			
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion			
Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)			
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Maximum Points	
Site Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(6))			
1. Area In Nonurban Use			
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use			
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed			
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government			
5. Distance From Urban Built-up Area			
6. Distance To Urban Support Services			
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average			
8. Creation Of Non-farmable Farmland			
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services			
10. On-Farm Investments			
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services			
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use			
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS			
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)			
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)			
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)			
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2lines)			
Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes E3 No	

Reason for Selection:

(See Instructions on reverse side)

STEPS IN THE PROCESSING THE FARMLAND AND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FORM

Step 1 - Federal agencies involved in proposed projects that may convert farmland, as defined in the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) to nonagricultural uses, will initially complete Parts I and III of the form.

Step 2 - Originator will send copies A, B and C together with maps indicating locations of site(s), to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) local field office and retain copy D for their files.

(Note: NRCS has a field office in most counties in the U.S. The field office is usually located in the county seat. A list of field office locations is available from the NRCS State Conservationist in each state).

Step 3 - NRCS will, within 45 calendar days after receipt of form, make a determination as to whether the site(s) of the proposed project contains prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland.

Step 4 - Cases where farmland covered by the FPPA will be converted by the proposed project, NRCS field offices will complete Parts II, IV and V of the form.

Step 5 - NRCS will return copy A and B of the form to the Federal agency involved in the project. (Copy C will be retained for NRCS records).

Step 6 - The Federal agency involved in the proposed project will complete Parts VI and VII of the form.

Step 7 - The Federal agency involved in the proposed project will make a determination as to whether the proposed conversion is consistent with the FPPA and the agency's internal policies.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FORM

Part I: In completing the "County and State" questions list all the local governments that are responsible for local land controls where site(s) are to be evaluated.

Part II: To be completed by NRCS

Part III: In completing item B (Total Acres to Be Converted Indirectly), include the following:

1. Acres not being directly converted but that would no longer be capable of being farmed after the conversion, because the conversion would restrict access to them.
2. Acres planned to receive services from an infrastructure project as indicated in the project justification (e.g. highways, utilities) that will cause a direct conversion.

Part VI: Do not complete Part VI if a local site assessment is used.

Assign the maximum points for each site assessment criterion as shown in § 658.5 (b) of CFR. In cases of corridor-type projects such as transportation, power line and flood control, criteria #5 and #6 will not apply and will be weighed zero, however, criterion #8 will be weighed a maximum of 25 points, and criterion # 11 a maximum of 25 points.

Individual Federal agencies at the national level, may assign relative weights among the 12 site assessment criteria other than those shown in the FPPA rule. In all cases where other weights are assigned relative adjustments must be made to maintain the maximum total weight points at 160.

In rating alternative sites, Federal agencies shall consider each of the criteria and assign points within the limits established in the FPPA rule. Sites most suitable for protection under these criteria will receive the highest total scores, and sites least suitable, the lowest scores.

Part IV: To be completed by NRCS

Part V: To be completed by NRCS

Part VI: To be completed by Federal Agency

Part VII: In computing the "Total Site Assessment Points" where a State or local site assessment is used and the total maximum number of points is other than 160, adjust the site assessment points to a base of 160. Example: if the Site Assessment maximum is 200 points, and alternative Site "A" is rated 180 points:

Total points assigned Site A = $180 \times 160 = 144$ points for Site "A."
Maximum points possible 200