Caleb Pharris

From: Vanek, Wayne - NRCS, Lincoln, NE <Wayne.Vanek@ne.usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 9:32 AM
To: Caleb Pharris
Subject: NRCS-CPA-106_POINTS_DON'T_EXCEED
Attachments: Saveable CPA 106_Alvo North.pdf

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United States Department of Agriculture
NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

Subject: FPPA response for: Alvo North Hwy Reconstruction, Cass County, Nebraska

Date: 02/22/2016

ATTENTION: Caleb Pharris | Environmental | Olsson Associates

I have reviewed the project information regarding the **Alvo North Hwy Reconstruction, Cass County, Nebraska** project for which you requested review of impacts to prime and important farmlands as per the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA). This review only covers FPPA concerns and does not include any other environmental concerns such as wetlands or endangered species. For general conservation concerns or questions relating to wetlands under the jurisdiction of the Food Security Act, contact your county Natural Resources Conservation Service office.

The NRCS-CPA-106 which you submitted to our office shows that your Part VI section assessment point total is **90.** The NRCS-CPA-106 Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form is based on a point system that has 160 points set as the minimum number of "Total Points" that triggers additional in-depth site reviews. The NRCS evaluation portion Part V is on a scale of 0 to 100 points. In the case with this project, the "Total Points" equate to **156. Thus, NRCS has determined that your project was found to be cleared of FPPA significant concerns.** We encourage you to continue to be aware of prime and important farmlands in general and the role they play in current and future projects

I am returning the **NRCS-CPA-106 form** to you for your records.

Wayne Vanek
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS-CPA-106
(Rev. 1-91)

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING FOR CORRIDOR TYPE PROJECTS

PART I *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*	3. Date of Land Evaluation Request	4. Sheet 1 of 1
1. Name of Project **Alvo North**	5. Federal Agency Involved **Federal Highway Administration**	
2. Type of Project **Reconstruction**	6. County and State **Cass County, Nebraska**	
PART II *(To be completed by NRCS)*	1. Date Request Received by NRCS	2. Person Completing Form **Wayne Vanek - NRCS**
3. Does the corridor contain prime, unique statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - Do not complete additional parts of this form). YES ☑ NO ☐		4. Acres Irrigated **3,513** / Average Farm Size **472**
5. Major Crop(s) **Soybeans**	6. Farmable Land in Government Jurisdiction Acres: %	7. Amount of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %
8. Name Of Land Evaluation System Used **SRPG (Soil Rating for Plant Growth)**	9. Name of Local Site Assessment System	10. Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS **2/22/16**

PART III *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*		Alternative Corridor For Segment _____			
		Corridor A	Corridor B	Corridor C	Corridor D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly		111			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly, Or To Receive Services		0			
C. Total Acres In Corridor		111	0	0	0
PART IV *(To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information*					
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland		64			
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland		47			
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 Information Criterion Relative value of Farmland to Be Serviced or Converted (Scale of 0 - 100 Points)*		66			
PART VI *(To be completed by Federal Agency) Corridor Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(c))*	Maximum Points				
1. Area in Nonurban Use	15	15			
2. Perimeter in Nonurban Use	10	10			
3. Percent Of Corridor Being Farmed	20	18			
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	20	20			
5. Size of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	10	5			
6. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	25	0			
7. Availablility Of Farm Support Services	5	5			
8. On-Farm Investments	20	17			
9. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	25	0			
10. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	10	0			
TOTAL CORRIDOR ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	90	0	0	0
PART VII *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	100	66			
Total Corridor Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	160	90	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS *(Total of above 2 lines)*	260	156	0	0	0

1. Corridor Selected:	2. Total Acres of Farmlands to be Converted by Project:	3. Date Of Selection:	4. Was A Local Site Assessment Used? YES ☐ NO ☐

5. Reason For Selection:

Signature of Person Completing this Part: | DATE

NOTE: Complete a form for each segment with more than one Alternate Corridor

Clear Form

CORRIDOR - TYPE SITE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following criteria are to be used for projects that have a linear or corridor - type site configuration connecting two distant points, and crossing several different tracts of land. These include utility lines, highways, railroads, stream improvements, and flood control systems. Federal agencies are to assess the suitability of each corridor - type site or design alternative for protection as farmland along with the land evaluation information.

(1) How much land is in nonurban use within a radius of 1.0 mile from where the project is intended?
More than 90 percent - 15 points
90 to 20 percent - 14 to 1 point(s)
Less than 20 percent - 0 points

(2) How much of the perimeter of the site borders on land in nonurban use?
More than 90 percent - 10 points
90 to 20 percent - 9 to 1 point(s)
Less than 20 percent - 0 points

(3) How much of the site has been farmed (managed for a scheduled harvest or timber activity) more than five of the last 10 years?
More than 90 percent - 20 points
90 to 20 percent - 19 to 1 point(s)
Less than 20 percent - 0 points

(4) Is the site subject to state or unit of local government policies or programs to protect farmland or covered by private programs to protect farmland?
Site is protected - 20 points
Site is not protected - 0 points

(5) Is the farm unit(s) containing the site (before the project) as large as the average - size farming unit in the County ?
(Average farm sizes in each county are available from the NRCS field offices in each state. Data are from the latest available Census of Agriculture, Acreage or Farm Units in Operation with $1,000 or more in sales.)
As large or larger - 10 points
Below average - deduct 1 point for each 5 percent below the average, down to 0 points if 50 percent or more below average - 9 to 0 points

(6) If the site is chosen for the project, how much of the remaining land on the farm will become non-farmable because of interference with land patterns?
Acreage equal to more than 25 percent of acres directly converted by the project - 25 points
Acreage equal to between 25 and 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project - 1 to 24 point(s)
Acreage equal to less than 5 percent of the acres directly converted by the project - 0 points

(7) Does the site have available adequate supply of farm support services and markets, i.e., farm suppliers, equipment dealers, processing and storage facilities and farmer's markets?
All required services are available - 5 points
Some required services are available - 4 to 1 point(s)
No required services are available - 0 points

(8) Does the site have substantial and well-maintained on-farm investments such as barns, other storage building, fruit trees and vines, field terraces, drainage, irrigation, waterways, or other soil and water conservation measures?
High amount of on-farm investment - 20 points
Moderate amount of on-farm investment - 19 to 1 point(s)
No on-farm investment - 0 points

(9) Would the project at this site, by converting farmland to nonagricultural use, reduce the demand for farm support services so as to jeopardize the continued existence of these support services and thus, the viability of the farms remaining in the area?
Substantial reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 25 points
Some reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 1 to 24 point(s)
No significant reduction in demand for support services if the site is converted - 0 points

(10) Is the kind and intensity of the proposed use of the site sufficiently incompatible with agriculture that it is likely to contribute to the eventual conversion of surrounding farmland to nonagricultural use?
Proposed project is incompatible to existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 10 points
Proposed project is tolerable to existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 9 to 1 point(s)
Proposed project is fully compatible with existing agricultural use of surrounding farmland - 0 points