

27—12.75(161C) Priority watersheds and water quality problems. Practices listed in rule 27—12.73(161C) will be eligible for landowner reimbursement from water protection practices funds only for watersheds and water quality problems designated by soil and water conservation district commissioners and approved by the state soil conservation and water quality committee.

12.75(1) District designation. Districts shall submit to the division the description of high priority watershed(s) or water quality problems within their district to be designated as eligible for practices listed in rule 27—12.73(161C).

12.75(2) State soil conservation and water quality committee evaluation. The state soil conservation and water quality committee shall examine the district submission under 12.75(1) with respect to the following criteria.

- a. The public value and current use of the water resource to be protected.
- b. The nature, extent and severity of the water quality problem to be addressed.
- c. The degree to which the district designation focuses practice application in a manner that will achieve a water quality benefit from the funds available.

12.75(3) Review time limit. The state soil conservation and water quality committee shall approve or disapprove the district designation within 90 days of receipt by the division.

12.75(4) Disapproval of designation. In the event of disapproval of district designation, the state soil conservation and water quality committee shall inform the district of the reason for disapproval.

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