

27—10.31(161A) Compliance with maintenance/performance agreements.

10.31(1) Performance agreement. Rescinded IAB 7/18/07, effective 6/27/07.

10.31(2) Maintenance/performance agreement. As a condition for receipt of any financial incentives funds for implementing soil and water conservation practices, the owner of the land on which the practices have been installed shall agree to maintain those practices for the term specified in the maintenance/performance agreement. Specific conditions of the agreement are detailed on the form.

a. Determination of practice implementation and continued compliance with maintenance/performance agreements.

(1) The certifying technician or the technician of the district will determine if the completed practice is in compliance with applicable standards and specifications in Part 8 of these rules. The certifying technician shall attest to completion and compliance with the standards by completing and signing a certification of practice form. The completed certification will be retained in the district case file for the appropriate landowner.

(2) The certifying technician or district technician shall inspect the practice at any time the district commissioners have reason to believe it is not being satisfactorily maintained. The division will evaluate the situation to determine that proper procedures were followed. “Satisfactorily maintained” means being maintained in such a state of repair so that the practice is successfully performing the function for which it was originally installed. Following the inspection, the certifying technician shall complete a certification of practice form. The completed certification shall be filed in the district’s case file for the landowner.

(3) The district shall inspect a practice whenever requested to do so by the landowner. The person requesting the inspection shall be provided a copy of the completed certification of practice form, used to document the results of this inspection.

b. Determination of noncompliance with maintenance/performance agreement. If the certifying technician determines that the practice is not being satisfactorily maintained, it shall be so noted on the certification of practice form. The district shall notify the division in writing of the noncompliance finding. The notification to the division shall contain a complete explanation of why the practice is considered not to be in compliance with the maintenance/performance agreement. The division will evaluate the situation to determine that proper procedures were followed. “Satisfactorily maintained” means the practice has been maintained in such a state of repair that it is successfully performing the function for which it was originally installed.

c. In the event that properly maintained practices that were installed with the assistance of Iowa financial incentive program funds are damaged due to natural disasters, completing the maintenance/performance agreement shall not constitute an action or intent on the part of the division to prevent the owner of the land on which the practices were installed from receiving federal emergency conservation program assistance to repair or replace the practices.