

STATE AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION #FY2020R9(2)

Memorializing Standards for determining Eligible Farms Pursuant
to the County Planning Incentive Grant (PIG) Program

SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-1 et seq. (County Planning Incentive Grant Program) the SADC is responsible for establishing the standards for what constitutes an “eligible farm” by annually determining minimum score requirements, of the County Planning Incentive Grant program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.2 an “eligible farm” means a targeted farm that qualifies for grant funding by achieving an individual rank score that is equal to or greater than 70 percent of the county’s average quality score of all farms granted preliminary approval by the SADC through the county easement purchase program and/or the county planning incentive grant program within the previous three fiscal years, as determined by the SADC ; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9(a)7, the SADC has implemented waivers in counties that lack a sufficient number of applications during the three prior fiscal years upon which to calculate eligible farm criteria; and

WHEREAS, six counties (Atlantic, Bergen, Camden, Mercer, Middlesex, and Passaic Counties) have submitted one or fewer applications each receiving preliminary approval (Green Light Approval) during the past three fiscal years, therefore it is not possible to establish an FY19 average quality score for these six counties pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.2; and

WHEREAS, because of the increased processing time and administrative burden associated with processing waivers it is recommended that the SADC utilize the average quality scores adopted at its July 26, 2018 meeting for Mercer and Middlesex Counties (Schedule A); and

WHEREAS, for applications submitted by Atlantic, Bergen, Camden and Passaic Counties, where no average quality score was available both in July 2018 or July 2019, the SADC will continue to consider these applications under the waiver provision as per N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9(a)7; and

WHEREAS, all other Counties have had sufficient activity to calculate an average quality score and minimum eligibility criteria (Schedule A)

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9(a)7, applications from all other Counties for farms that fail to meet the minimum score requirements, the County may request a waiver of the minimum score criterion;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the SADC adopts 70 percent average quality score values for determining an “eligible farm” pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.2 for the County Planning Incentive Grant Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, there is no minimum criteria for applications submitted by Atlantic, Bergen, Camden and Passaic Counties, where no average quality score was available; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minimum score for farms in Mercer and Middlesex Counties is based on the average quality scores adopted last year, based on preliminary approval or Green Light quality scores for County PIG applications in FY '15,'16 and '17; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the minimum score for farms in all other participating Counties is based on the average quality scores adopted this year, based on preliminary approval or Green Light quality scores for County PIG applications in FY '17,'18 and '19 (Schedule A); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 70 percent of average quality scores for determining an "eligible farm" pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.2 shall be effective as of January 1, 2020, and shall apply to an application for the sale of a development easement that is received by the SADC pursuant to N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9 prior to December 31, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this approval is considered a final agency decision appealable to the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this action is not effective until the Governor's review period expires pursuant to N.J.S.A. 4:1C-4f.

9/26/19
Date


Susan E. Payne, Executive Director
State Agriculture Development Committee

VOTE WAS RECORDED AS FOLLOWS

Douglas H. Fisher, Chairperson	YES
Renee Jones (rep. DEP Commissioner McCabe)	YES
Gina Fischetti (rep. DCA Commissioner Oliver)	YES
Ralph Siegel (rep. State Treasurer Muoio)	YES
Jane Brodhecker	YES
Alan Danser, Vice Chairman	YES
Scott Ellis	YES
Denis C. Germano, Esq.	YES
Peter Johnson	YES
Brian Schilling (rep. Executive Dean Goodman)	YES
James Waltman	ABSENT

SADC County PIG "Eligible" Farm Standard
Effective 1.01.20 - 12.31.20

September 26, 2019

SADC Minimum Standards for "Eligible" Farm													
26-Sep-19													
	<u>2009</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY 2010</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2011</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2012</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2013</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2014</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2015</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2016</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2017</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2018</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>*FY2019</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>FY2020</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>	<u>70% of</u> <u>Average</u> <u>Quality</u> <u>Score</u>
Atlantic	47.61	47.94	52.61	****	64.91	59.9	59.9	52.08	****	****	****	****	****
Bergen	35.91	20.57	****	****	*****	43.4	43.4	43.40	****	****	****	****	****
Burlington	64.12	63.49	65.06	64.91	64.54	68.2	68.94	69.37	69.74	68.99	69.41	68.5	47
Camden		****	****	****	*****	58.64	58.64	58.64	****	****	****	****	****
Cape May	51.6	51.32	54.69	45.77	49.35	49.89	56.36	56.59	57.98	59.19	55.91	59.89	41
Cumberland	60.56	60.83	61.55	59.53	58.97	61.98	64.69	64.20	63.81	63.23	64.08	60.93	42
Gloucester	53.22	58.11	59.69	62.14	62.65	67.38	67.6	66.48	61.33	60.88	61.25	65.29	45
Hunterdon	57.6	61.26	62.64	65.52	64.97	64.25	63.36	61.70	68.55	67.35	64.87	64.85	45
Mercer	70.66	72.05	77.19	72.42	68.52	70.69	71.52	72.64	68.69	71.58	70.48	70.48	49
Middlesex	53.25	58.02	59.49	63.03	57.98	62.06	56.81	60.17	60.17	64.29	****	64.29	45
Monmouth	69.01	69.56	71.75	68.95	70	73.47	76.65	****	78.46	77.72	74.81	70.83	49
Morris	63.55	61.45	60.01	60.42	60.65	60.5	62	68.40	66.72	66.04	62.48	63.24	44
Ocean	46.85	48.58	56.69	61.39	71.17	71.17	****	67.20	59.06	61.65	62.14	65.89	46
Passaic		****	****	****	34.11	34.11	34.11	54.37	54.37	54.37	****	****	****
Salem	68.61	71.13	69.77	69.77	65.86	66.26	67.65	69.93	68.54	68.64	69.33	70.19	49
Somerset	67.31	66.98	66.93	67.09	67	60.58	56.43	58.61	65.01	68.12	****	73.7	51
Sussex	50.39	48.2	51.24	57.02	54.9	53.66	54.6	54.74	56.30	58.37	57.77	46.91	32
Warren	55.52	56.66	57.51	61.57	60.99	59.89	63.17	62.70	63.40	62.94	66.19	64.15	44
Based on preliminary approval or Green Light quality scores for County Planning Incentive Grant Fiscal Years '17,'18 and '19													
Based on preliminary approval or Green Light quality scores for County Planning Incentive Grant Fiscal Years '15,'16 and '17													
N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9 (a) and 17.2 (County Planning Incentive Grant Program)													
These standards are effective January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020													
** all numbers are rounded down to the nearest whole number													
N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.9 -7: any farm not meeting this standard may seek a waiver													
**** Independent review and approval by SADC required to receive Green Light Approval													