

# Energy – NRCS Standards Development

...a work in progress!

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*Assistant State Conservation Engineer*

**Columbia, SC**

# Energy and NRCS

1. **Where have we come from?**
2. **Where are we now?**
3. **Where are we going?**
4. **Utilizing the Experts**

# NRCS and Energy

- **Began with Renewables (mid 2000's)**
- **Cooperation with USDA-RD... REAP Grants**
- **Interim CPS 716 – Conservation Power Plant**
  - Colorado, Utah, South Carolina (2009)

# 716 Conservation Power Plant

## ➤ Purpose

- Provide an alternate and dependable source of Power that is not generated by fossil fuels

## ➤ Conditions Where Practice Applies

- Wherever agriculture power needs can be met or supplemented by use of alternative power sources
- To wind, solar, bioenergy and hydro power plant alternatives




# CPS Development

- **Energy Efficiency and Conservation - DRAFT (2009)**
  - To determine baseline energy use and conserve energy use through efficiency measures
  - Energy was not a resource concern – DRAFT was not approved to move forward....
  
- **374 On-Farm Equipment Efficiency Improvements (2010)**
  - Air Quality – Reduce net GHG

# Conservation Activity Plans for Energy Conservation

- Practice Code 122: Agricultural Energy Management Plan - Headquarters
- Practice Code 124: Agricultural Energy Management Plan - Landscape




*Technical Service Provider TSP-B-09-845*

Submits this

**Agricultural Energy Management Plan**

To:

**Kevin Reeves  
Kevin Reeves Farm  
852 Dorange Hwy  
Reevesville, SC 29471**



10 Acres

December 12, 2013

# Energy and EQIP

## ➤ EQIP 515.90 E.(1)(v)

- Ineligible Practices are those where the primary purpose is renewable energy production

## ➤ EQIP 515.91 A.(7)

- Eligible costs for Renewable Energy
  - Related to conservation benefit (excluding energy conservation) e.g. AQ, WQ, Rangeland

# Energy and EQIP



## ➤ **Ineligible Costs**

- Residential Energy production
- Electrical Power
- Renewable Energy Production that is not related to a conservation benefit

## ➤ **Energy was not considered a resource**

## ➤ **October 2010 – NB 450-11-3**

- Energy is now recognized as a resource concern for NRCS

# Energy Policy Decisions

August 2010: Chief White signed a Decision Memorandum stating that:

- the conservation of energy through energy efficiency and renewable energy production is an agency priority,
- the agency will establish new resource concerns to support this objective through the Streamlining Initiative, and
- in the interim, States should continue to incorporate planning to achieve energy conservation in their efforts.

December 2010: Decision to fully implement energy resource concerns by Fiscal Year 2012.

# Streamlining Initiative

## Energy Resource Concerns

<p><b>INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE</b> - Equipment and Facilities</p>	<p>Inefficient use of energy in the Farm Operation increases dependence on non-renewable energy sources that <b>can be addressed through improved energy efficiency and the use of on-farm renewable energy sources</b></p>
<p><b>INEFFICIENT ENERGY USE</b> - Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations</p>	<p>Inefficient use of energy in field operations increases dependence on non-renewable energy sources that <b>can be addressed through improved energy efficiency and the use of on-farm renewable energy sources.</b></p>

# Energy Policy

➤ GM 450\_409\_A (Amend. 25 October 2010)

“Within NRCS, the goal concerning energy is to help producers and private land owners reduce the use of fossil fuel-based energy through:

- (1) Improving the efficiency of energy use
- (2) Conserving energy
- (3) Producing renewable energy
- (4) Producing biomass energy feedstocks in a sustainable manner

# Energy Policy

## GM 450\_409\_A (continued)

The scope of NRCS technical assistance to address energy related resource concerns includes:

- (1) Reducing use of on-farm energy derived from fossil fuels and improving energy efficiency.
- (2) Producing renewable energy feedstocks in a sustainable manner.
- (3) Producing energy from renewable resources to support the application of a conservation practice.”

# CPS Development

## ➤ **New 671 – Renewable Energy Production (2011) ... Replacement of 716**

- Production of renewable energy resources to meet on-farm energy needs
- Increase reliance on renewable energy to
  - Reduce fossil fuel consumption
  - Diminish purchased energy
  - Reduce the carbon footprint.

## ➤ **CPS 671 Development Tabled**

# Energy Conservation Standards

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 2890  
Washington, D.C. 20013

NATIONAL HANDBOOK OF CONSERVATION PRACTICES  
450 – VI  
NOTICE 154  
Amend. 12

June 6, 2011

**Farmstead Energy Improvement (Code 374)** – The title was changed from “On-Farm Equipment Efficiency Improvements” to “Farmstead Energy Improvement.” The Definition was changed. A new Purpose of “Reduce Energy Use” with accompanying Criteria was added. Technologies with corresponding industry standards were added to the Criteria section.

**Irrigation Pipeline (Code 430)** – New Purposes of “Reduce Energy Use” and “Develop Renewable Energy Systems” along with accompanying Criteria and Reference were added.

# 374 Farmstead Energy Improvement (2011)



- Development and implementation of improvements to reduce, or improve the energy efficiency of on-farm energy use
- Applied as part of a conservation energy system to reduce energy use
- Application of ASABE Farm Energy Audit S612

# Energy Systems in (374)



Lighting

Controllers

Motors/Engines

Building Envelope

Ventilation

Refrigeration

Water Heating

Heating (buildings)

Milk Harvesting

Drying

Material Handling

Crop/feed storage

A/C (Air Cooling)

Farmstead Energy Improvement covers a wide range of energy-using system types.

These types are based on ASABE Audit S612 'Major Activity' category.

## Options via other CPS

Irrigation

Waste Handling

# 670 Lighting System Improvement

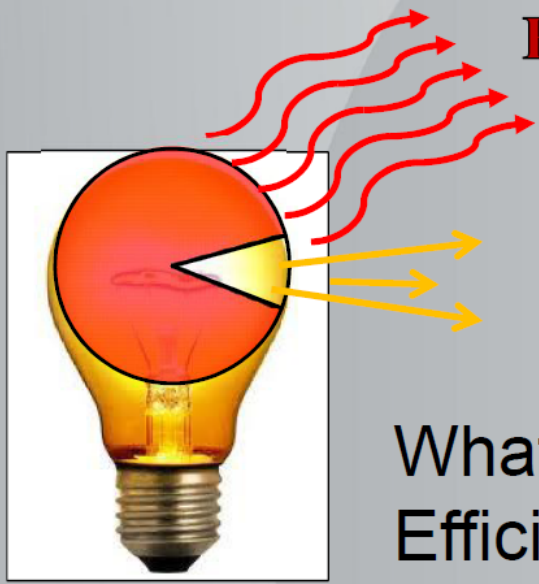
- Definition: Complete replacement or retrofitting of one or more components of an existing agricultural lighting system
- Purpose: Applied as part of a conservation energy system to reduce energy use

# 670 Lighting System Improvement

- This practice applies to any agricultural facility with an existing lighting system and a completed lighting assessment that complies with the guidelines for the major activity of lighting per ANSI/ASABE S612

Are you evaluating lighting or heating ? What happens to your heat transfer if you remove the incandescents

# Incandescent Lamp Efficiency



**Heat ~ 90%**

**Useful Light ~ 10%**

What we find useful depends.  
Efficiency is based on what we want:

Light. → Illumination efficiency = 10%

Heat → Thermal efficiency = 90%

# 670 – Requirements for a Plan

## Identify and Describe...

- Existing Lighting Envr
  - Lumen Output
  - No. and Placement of Luminaires
  - No. Lamps / Fixture
  - Wattage
  - Lamp type
  - Brand / Model
  - Fixtures / Wiring
- Replacement brand / model
  - No. Lamps / Fixture
  - Wattage
  - Ballast Type
  - Lamp Type
  - Fixture rating
  - Recommended Illumination Level

# 670 – Requirements for a Plan

- Describe the specific number and arrangement of fixtures to be replaced and/or installed, along with the power source and controls
- Include a plan view showing the location for the lighting system including and electrical wiring diagram.

# 672 Building Envelope Improvement

- Definition: Modification or retrofit of the building envelope of an existing agricultural structure.
- Purpose: Applied to reduce energy by regulating heat transfer

# 672 Building Envelope Improvement

- This practice applies to any agricultural facility which is climate controlled at least part of the time with a completed energy analysis that complies with the guidelines for a Type 2 on-farm energy audit per ASABE S612. The audit will at a minimum address the major activities of ventilation, air heating and cooling that exist in the building

# 672 Building Envelope Improvement



- Ensure that U-values of the improved walls and ceiling of the building envelope are equal to or less than the U values provided in Table 1 and Figure 1 of ASABE ANSI/ASAE S401.2, Guidelines for Use of Thermal Insulation in Agricultural Buildings.
- Ensure insulation materials and vapor retarders exposed to the interior of the building will meet specifications described in ANSI/ASABE S401.2.

**Table 1 – Minimum recommended overall coefficients of heat transmission, U, for insulated assemblies<sup>††</sup> (ref. MWPS)**

Climatic Zone <sup>‡</sup>	Recommended Minimum U <sup>#</sup> Values					
	Cold		Modified Environment		Supplementally Heated	
	Walls	Ceiling	Walls	Ceiling	Walls	Ceiling
<b>W/(m<sup>2</sup> K)</b>						
1	—	0.91 <sup>§1</sup>	0.91 <sup>§</sup>	0.40	0.40	0.26
2	—	0.91	0.91	0.33	0.40	0.23
3	—	0.91	0.48	0.23	0.29	0.17
<b>Btu/(h ft<sup>2</sup> °F)</b>						
1	—	0.17 <sup>§</sup>	0.17 <sup>§</sup>	0.071	0.071	0.045
2	—	0.17	0.17	0.059	0.071	0.040
3	—	0.17	0.083	0.040	0.050	0.030

\* Use assembly U-values which include framing effects, air spaces, airfilms, linings, and sidings. Determine assembly U-values by testing the full assembly in accordance with ASTM C236 or C976 or calculate by the procedures presented in the ASHRAE Handbook of Fundamentals.

† The values shown do not represent the values necessary to provide a heat balance between heat produced by products or animals and the heat transferred through the building.

# For poultry grow-out buildings, a U of 0.63 – 0.81 W/(m<sup>2</sup>·K)[0.11 – 0.14 Btu/(h·ft<sup>2</sup>·°F)] in the roof and walls is current practice.

‡ Refer to Figure 1.

§ Where ambient temperature and radiant heat load are severe, use a U of 0.48 W/(m<sup>2</sup>·K)[0.083 Btu/(h·ft<sup>2</sup>·°F)].

**ANSI/ASAE S401.2 FEB1993 (R2012)  
Guidelines for Use of Thermal Insulation in Agricultural Buildings**



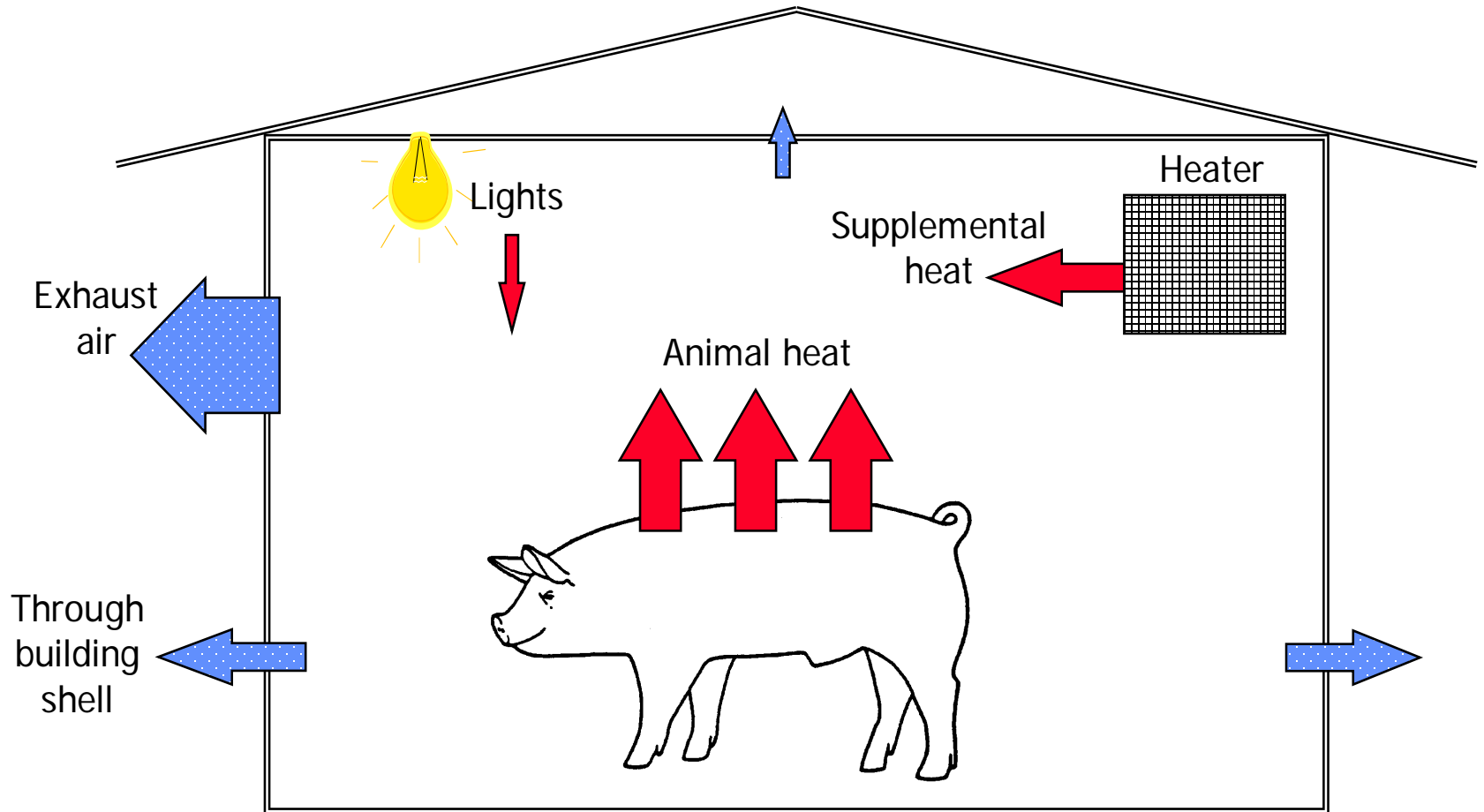
**American Society of  
Agricultural and Biological Engineers**



Figure 1 – Climatic zones (ref. Midwest Plan Service)

# Major Activity Interaction

## Heating, Lighting, Ventilation, Insulation



# 670 – Requirements for a Plan

## Identify and Describe...

- Existing Lighting Envr
  - Lumen Output
  - No. and Placement of Luminaires
  - No. Lamps / Fixture
  - Wattage
  - Lamp type
  - Brand / Model
  - Fixtures / Wiring
- Replacement brand / model
  - No. Lamps / Fixture
  - Wattage
  - Ballast Type
  - Lamp Type
  - Fixture rating
  - Recommended Illumination Level

# 672 – Requirements for a Plan

- Plan view drawing and description of the existing building envelope.
- Plan view drawing and description of the retrofitted building envelope and related components.
- Description and Characteristics of materials to be applied to the building envelope.

# 672 – Requirements for a Plan

- Details of ventilation and sealing provisions
- Disposal of replaced materials
- Documentation of energy savings associated with the practice



# CPS – More to come

- Ventilation
- Drying
  - Process Heating
- Space Heating
  - Greenhouses
  - Shops
  - Domestic Hot water
- Refrigeration
- Water Heating
- Milk Harvesting
- Materials Handling
- AC/Refrigeration
- Other Major Activities

# Energy Study viz 9 Steps

1. Identify Problems
2. Determine Objectives

3. Inventory Resources
4. Analyze Resource Data
5. Formulate Alternatives
6. Evaluate Alternatives

7. Make Decision
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ASABE  
S612

CPS  
Implementation



# The Experts - ASABE

**ANSI/ASABE S612 JUL2009**  
**Performing On-farm Energy Audits**



American Society of  
Agricultural and Biological Engineers

# ANSI / ASABE S612 ...

**3.9 Type 1 Audit:** An evaluation and report of farm enterprise energy use that considers, at a minimum, the major activities highlighted in Table 1, as applicable. A Type 1 Audit is not required to address individual components.

**3.10 Type 2 Audit** A more detailed evaluation and report of farm enterprise energy use that considers all major activities and components included in Table 1, as applicable.

NRCS requires Type 2 Audits.

*“... consider all major activities and components in Table 1, as applicable.”*

# ANSI / ASABE S612 Type 2 Audit



Table 1 – Suggested Components within Major Activities by Farm Enterprises for Audit Assessment

Major Activity	Components	Farm Enterprises								
		Dairy	Swine	Poultry	Beef/ veal	Field crops	Fruit/ vegetables	Aquaculture	Nursery/ Greenhouse	
Lighting <sup>1,7,10</sup>	lamps, timers, sensors	X <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x		x	x	X	
Ventilation <sup>2,7,10,11</sup>	fans, control system, variable drives, humidity control	x <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x		x	X(aeration)	x <sup>8,9</sup>	
Refrigeration <sup>5,7,10</sup>	compressor, evaporator/chiller, motor, insulation	milk, products <sup>6</sup>		eggs			commodity	x	Veg/cut flowers	
Milk harvesting <sup>7,10</sup>	pumps, motors, controllers	x <sup>6</sup>								
Controllers <sup>7,10</sup>	master system automation	x	x	x				x	x	
Other motors/pumps <sup>3,4,7,10</sup>	Types, compressors	X <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Water heating <sup>7,10,12</sup>	heater, energy source, insulation, recovery, waterers	x <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x					
Air Heating/ Bldg environment <sup>10</sup>	heater, energy source, insulation, recovery, variable drives	x	x	x	x		x		x <sup>8,9</sup>	
Drying <sup>10</sup>	energy source, airflow (motors/fans), handling equipment					x				
Waste handling	collection and dispersal equipment/methods	x	x	x	x			x		
Air Cooling	energy source, airflow (motors/fans), control systems, evaporative	x	x	x	x				x <sup>8,9</sup>	
Cultural Practices	planting, tilling, harvesting, engine driven equipment					x	x			
Crop/feed Storage					x	x	x	x	x	
Water management	wells, reservoir, recycled	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Material handling <sup>7,10</sup>	equipment, motors, pumps	x <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Irrigation <sup>10</sup>	motors/engines, pumps, power source					x	x		x	

# What is not ANSI / ASABE S612 Type 2



USDA United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

## Energy Self Assessment

Energy Tools Home | About the Tools | Conservation Tools | Renewable Tools | Contact Us

[//www.ruralenergy.wisc.edu/default.aspx](http://www.ruralenergy.wisc.edu/default.aspx)



USDA United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

## Energy Tools

Energy Consumption Awareness Tools

<http://energytools.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

# ASABE S612 ...

**3.2 Energy resource:** Source from which energy is obtained, including gasoline, diesel fuel, biofuel, propane, natural gas, electricity, solar, wind, wood, biomass, geothermal, etc.

## 4 Documenting the base-line condition

**4.2.2.2** For each major activity, document type of energy resource used and current energy consumption. Also, as appropriate, electrical service information (single or three phase; voltage) (natural gas or propane) needs to be included.

Account for all sources.

- NRCS (\$) support of renewable resource projects is limited.
- Analysis must, though, account for all listed energy sources (unless negligible).



# ANSI / ASABE S612

## The Baseline Condition



- Annual Cycle
- Enterprise Specific
  - **3.3 Farm enterprise: Production category of a farm.**  
For example, a farm may include a field crop enterprise and a livestock enterprise. (See Table 1)
- Major Activities Associated with the Enterprise
- Components of Major Activities
- Manufacturers / Factory Ratings
- Management Use Efficiencies



# What is an ANSI / ASABE S612



## 5. Assessment and Recommendations

- Energy Savings at the Enterprise Level
- Energy Savings for each major activity
- Estimated Cost of Replacement
- Estimated Energy Savings and Cost Savings
- Simple Payback Period

# ASABE S612 ...

## 5 Assessment and Recommendations

5.2 Energy savings at the enterprise level shall be reported in units useable and understandable by the end-user (J, Btu, kWh).

5.3.2 Estimated savings in energy and energy cost, including appropriate assumptions and documentation.

Interpret as:

5.2 – Purchased units (kWh, gallon, therm)

5.3.2 – Show Your Work  
(8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra, science lab, etc.)

# S612, Table 1 extract

Table 1 – Suggested Components within Major Activities by Farm Enterprises for Audit Assessment

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		Dairy	Swine	Poultry	Beef/ veal	Field crops	Fruit/ vegetables	Aquaculture	Nurse Greenh
Lighting <sup>1,7,10</sup>	lamps, timers, sensors	X <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x		x	x	X
Ventilation <sup>2,7,10,11</sup>	fans, control system, variable drives, humidity control	x <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x		x	X(aeration)	x <sup>8,9</sup>
Refrigeration <sup>5,7,10</sup>	compressor, evaporator/chiller, motor, insulation	milk, products <sup>6</sup>		eggs			commodity	x	Veg/cut f
Milk harvesting <sup>7,10</sup>	pumps, motors, controllers	x <sup>6</sup>							
Controllers <sup>7,10</sup>	master system automation	x	x	x				x	x
Other motors/pumps <sup>3,4,7,10</sup>	Types, compressors	X <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Water heating <sup>7,10,12</sup>	heater, energy source, insulation, recovery, waterers	x <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x				

# S612, Table 1 – symbols (typ.)

Table 1 – Suggested Components within Major Activities by Farm Enterprises for Audit Assessment

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Other motors/ pumps <sup>3,4,7,10</sup>	Types, compressors	X <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
		x <sup>6</sup>	x	x	x				

Shaded w/ entry:  
minimum Maj. Activity  
considered for Type 1  
[3.9]

X or x: common  
for Enterprise.

Blank: uncommon  
for Enterprise.

# Energy Study viz 9 Steps

1. Identify Problems
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ASABE  
S612

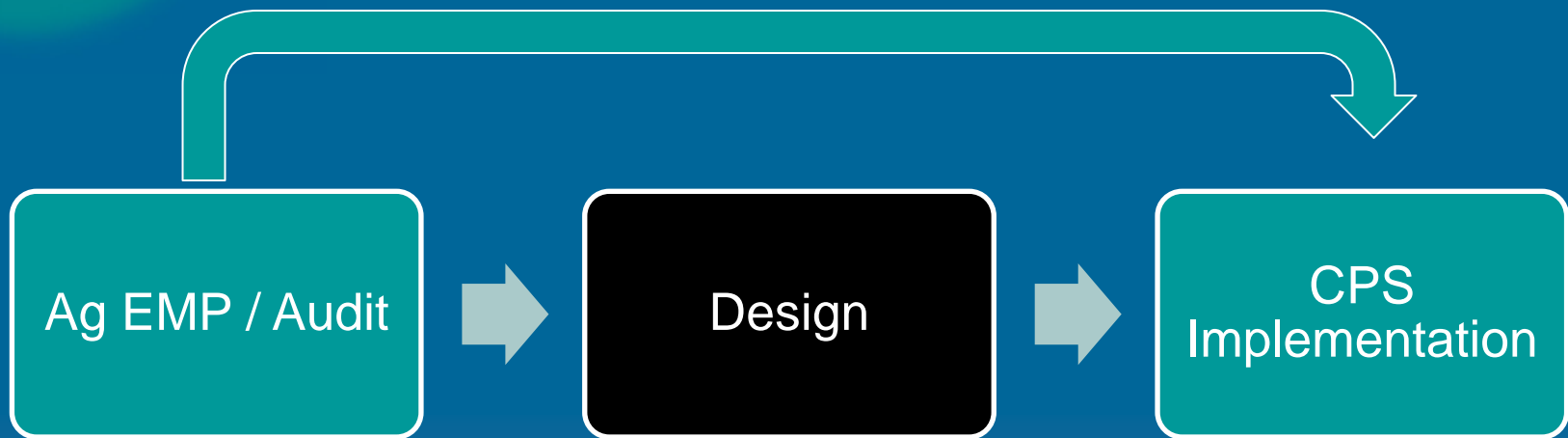
CPS  
Implementation



# Energy Analysis (aka Audits, aka AgEMPs) How Specific?

- Insulation (R value – materials to achieve)
- Not only type of lights but
  - Color rendering
  - Specific wattages
  - Heat Characteristics
- Not simply high efficiency fans but
  - Make and model (or equivalent)

# Energy CPS Application




- **Are there items that can go straight from the Audit to Implementation.**
- **Which items require design?**

**More Decisions to be made... Energy Implementation in NRCS is a Work in Progress...**

**Questions?**

# Webinar Agenda

- ❖ Series Overview
- ❖ Presenters
- ❖ Energy Conservation and Agriculture
- ❖ NRCS Approach to Energy Analysis & Upgrades ^
- ❖ Key Practices: Farmstead; Lighting; Building Envelope
- ❖ Building Envelope Energy Transfer Basics
- ❖ Final Q&A 
- ❖ Post-webinar Test