EQIP Organic Initiative Self-Certification Worksheet for Fiscal Year 2016

This self-certification form must be used by each producer applying for EQIP Organic Initiative assistance. The goal of the Organic Initiative is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and EQIP benefits are allocated to address resource concerns related to organic production. In order to qualify for the Organic Initiative, a producer must self-certify that they meet one of the following three categories.

1. Certified Organic

I, _____, hereby acknowledge that I am a certified organic producer and I will provide NRCS with a copy of my current USDA NOP organic certificate or proof of good standing from a USDA-accredited certifying agent. I understand that I am required to maintain organic certification throughout the life of the EQIP OI contract. If certification is not maintained, the contract may be subject to termination.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

2. Exempt from Certification (Organic Producers Selling Less Than $5,000 in Organic Products Annually)
I, _____, hereby acknowledge that in order to receive technical and financial assistance through EQIP Organic Initiative as an exempt producer, I agree to develop and implement an OSP as required by the National Organic Programs (NOP) Act (7 U.S.C. Sections 6501-6522). I understand my application will be ranked with transitioning organic producers provided I meet eligibility requirements. I certify that I sell less than $5,000 in organic products annually and I have provided the required documentation as specified in 440-CPM. I agree to notify NRCS should my exempt from certification status change during the life of this EQIP OI contract.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Step Two – Priority Determination for– Select One:
D.C. Approval: _____ Date Approved _____

3. Transitioning to Organic

I, _____, hereby acknowledge that in order to receive technical and financial assistance through EQIP Organic Initiative as a transitioning to organic producer, I agree to develop and implement an organic system plan to standards as required by the National Organic Programs (NOP) Act (7 U.S.C. Sections 6501-6522).

I understand that if I do not meet this requirement during the period while transitioning to organic production, my EQIP contract may be subject to termination.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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