A. EQIP Status in the PMR:
The Environmental Quality Incentive Program or EQIP is a program that provides practice payment incentives to agricultural producers to implement and maintain conservation practices. We have 3 EQIP funding categories in the PMR:

1) EQIP - General
   Initial Allocation = $255,000
   Current Allocation = $464,531
   36 Contracts have been Approved for $446,488
   4 Contracts are Pending Approval for $30,350
   73 Remaining Applications for $1,200,000 are awaiting more funds to be allocated

2) EQIP - Animal Feeding Operations (AFO)
   Initial Allocation = $300,000
   Current Allocation = $208,640
   1 Contract has been Approved for $108,640
   1 Contract is Pending for $100,000
   1 Application was Cancelled.

3) EQIP - Ground and Surface Water Conservation (GSWC)
   Initial Allocation = $51,000
   Current Allocation = $30,000
   2 Contracts Pending Approval for $63,000
   2 Remaining Applications for $19,900

B. Farm Bill is still Pending:
A new Farm Bill is still pending. The Continuing Resolution that we are currently working under will expire March 15, 2008. NRCS in Nebraska is having to work under some very tight fiscal constraints through at least March 15, 2008.