U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE WASWNGTON, D.C. 202500

DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION

NUMBER: 9500-011

SUBJECT: Coordination of Environmental Policy

DATE:

April 20, 1994

OPI:

Natural Resources & Environment

1 Purpose

A primary mission of the Department of Agriculture is to assist farmers in improving agricultural production while at the same time conserving our natural resources and protecting and improving the quality of the environment. Successful accomplishment of this mission requires the development of clear USDA policies on environmental issues and the coordinated implementation of programs to carry out those policies. The purpose of this regulation is to establish the necessary mechanisms to ensure effective policy and program coordination regarding all environmental matters including pesticides.

2 Establishment

There is hereby established the Agricultural Council on Environmental Quality (Council) which shall be responsible for coordination of all environmental policies and programs of the Department. Membership of the Council shall include the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, the Under Secretary for International Affairs and Commodity Programs, the Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, the Assistant Secretary for Science and Education, the Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Inspection Services, the Assistant Secretary for Economics, and the Assistant Secretary for Administration. The Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment is hereby designated as Chairman of the Council.

3 Staff Support

An Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment shall serve as Director of the

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Council and in that role shall provide staff support to the Council in promoting strong and effective intradepartmental coordination on environmental policy issues, improving policy formulation on environmental issues, and providing a focal point for USDA interaction on environmental issues with other federal agencies and external organizations. Additional staff support may be provided to the Council, as necessary, by appropriate USDA agencies and offices.

4 Implementation

The provisions of this regulation shall be effective immediately. Departmental Regulation 1044-2 is hereby cancelled.