

***Circular 08/2009***

**26<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

***To all REPS Planners, Planning Agencies.  
Regional Inspectors, AES inspectors, AS, DS & SAO.***

## **The Rural Environment Protection Scheme**

### **2009 Commencement Dates for New REPS 4 Contracts**

The purpose of this circular is to clarify commencement dates for REPS 4 applications received on or before 15<sup>th</sup> May 2009

In processing the application the following will need to be considered.

Is the application:

- A totally new REPS applicant or a previous REPS client currently out of contract
- A REPS 3 participant in the final year of the REPS 3 contract
- A REPS 3 participant with more than one year left to run on the REPS 3 contract
- REPS 3 participant converting to Organic Farming and REPS 4 mid recording year
- REPS 3 participant applying for a derogation under the Nitrates Directive.

#### **NEW REPS APPLICANT OR A PREVIOUS REPS CLIENT CURRENTLY OUT OF CONTRACT**

Applicants in this category can receive commencement dates of the first day of the months January to June 2009 and the date will be determined by the date on which the valid application and plan was lodged.

The first REPS 4 payment will be calculated on the number of months from the commencement date of the contract up to 31 December 2009. Subsequent payments will be based on calendar years.

#### **REPS 3 PARTICIPANT IN THE FINAL YEAR OF THE REPS 3 CONTRACT**

Applicants in this category can be sub-divided into

- Those with REPS 3 finishing dates before 15 May 2009 and
- Those with REPS 3 finishing dates after 15 May 2009

In all cases the latest date for receipt of an application and accompanying REPS plan is 15 May 2009 to qualify for REPS 4 payment in 2009.

#### **REPS 3 finishing dates before 15 May 2009**

Applicants in this category can receive commencement dates of the first day of the months January to June 2009.

Where the valid application and accompanying plan is received before the end date of the REPS 3 contract the commencement date of the REPS 4 contract shall be the first day of the month following completion date of the REPS 3 contract.

Where the valid application and accompanying plan is received before 15 May 2009 but after the completion date of the REPS 3 contract the commencement date shall be the first day of the month following receipt.

The first REPS 4 payment will be calculated on the number of months from the commencement date of the contract up to 31 December 2009. Subsequent payments will be based on calendar years.

*Example.*

*REPS 3 contract ending 31 March 2009*

*Scenario 1*

*REPS 4 application and plan received 15 January 2009*

*Commencement date for REPS 4 is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009*

*Scenario 2*

*REPS 4 application and plan received 15 April 2009*

*Commencement date for REPS 4 is 1<sup>st</sup> May 2009*

The first REPS 4 payment will be calculated on the number of months from the commencement date of the contract up to 31 December 2009. Subsequent payments will be based on calendar years.

### **REPS 3 finishing dates after 15 May 2009**

The commencement date of the REPS 4 contract shall be the first day of the month following completion date of the REPS 3 contract.

The first REPS 4 payment will be calculated on the number of months from the commencement date of the contract up to 31 December 2009. Subsequent payments will be based on calendar years.

### **REPS 3 PARTICIPANT WITH MORE THAN ONE YEAR LEFT TO RUN**

Applicants in this category can be sub-divided into

- Those with REPS 3 anniversary dates before 15 May 2009 and
- Those with REPS 3 anniversary dates after 15 May 2009

### **REPS 3 anniversary dates before 15 May 2009**

A valid application and accompanying plan must have been received on or before the 2009 REPS 3 anniversary date.

The commencement date of the REPS 4 contract will be the REPS 3 anniversary date in 2009.

The first REPS 4 payment will be calculated on the number of months from the commencement date of the contract up to 31 December 2009. Subsequent payments will be based on calendar years.

*Example.*

*REPS 3 anniversary 31 March 2009*

*REPS 4 application and plan received in February 2009*

*Commencement date for REPS 4 is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009*

### **REPS 3 anniversary dates after 15 May 2009**

The commencement date of the REPS 4 contract will be the REPS 3 anniversary date in 2009.

The first REPS 4 payment will be calculated on the number of months from the commencement date of the contract up to 31 December 2009. Subsequent payments will be based on calendar years.

*Example.*

*REPS 3 anniversary 30 June 2009*

*REPS 4 application and plan received on or before 15 May 2009*

*The commencement date of the REPS 4 contract shall be the first day of the month following completion date of the REPS 3 recording year .i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009.*

### **REPS 3 PARTICIPANT CONVERTING TO ORGANIC FARMING AND REPS 4 DURING THE REPS 3 RECORDING YEAR.**

Applicants in this category, irrespective of their REPS 3 anniversary date, can receive commencement dates of the first day of the months January to June 2009 and the date will be determined by the date on which the valid applications and plans are lodged.

The commencement date of the REPS 4 contract and the Organic Farming Scheme contracts shall be the first day of the month following receipt of the valid applications.

Where the Organic Farming Scheme and the REPS4 contracts are given a commencement date prior to the 2009 REPS 3 anniversary date a partial refund of the REPS 3 payment already advanced will be required.

### **REPS 3 PARTICIPANT APPLYING FOR A DEROGATION UNDER THE NITRATES DIRECTIVE**

Applicants in this category, irrespective of their 2009 REPS 3 anniversary date, can receive commencement dates of the first day of the months January to June 2009 and the date will be determined by the date on which the valid application and plan is lodged.

The commencement date of the REPS 4 contract shall be the first day of the month following receipt of the valid application.

Where the REPS 4 contract is given a commencement date prior to the 2009 REPS 3 anniversary date a partial refund of the REPS 3 payment already advanced will be required.

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