**Section 560.APPENDIX B Universal Soil Loss Equation**

The Universal Soil Loss Equation is a mathemetical formula which can be used to predict average soil loss in tons per acre per year under various field conditions. It gives consideration to rainfall (R), soil type characteristics (K), length and steepness of slope (LS), cropping system (C), and erosion control practices (P) such as contouring, strip cropping, terracing and straight row farming. Each of the factors is determined for a specific field condition. Research data from sources such as the Agricultural Research Service and various universities as well as field experiences of the Soil Conservation Service and others have been incorporated. Basic climatic data including rainfall information from the Weather Bureau are used.

Information on the Universal Soil Loss Equation may be obtained from local offices of the following governmental agencies: University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and regional offices of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.