1. Decide to purchase an existing poultry farm or start a new poultry farm.
2. Discuss plans with poultry integrator (see if min. 3yr. contract is available)
3. If existing farm, determine status of CAFO permit and CNMP
4. Discuss plans with Ag lender (project cost, credit history, repayment ability and security for the loan).
   See if proposal meets the definition of a CAFO based upon animal numbers. AFO’s do not require
   CAFO permits or CNMPs for FSA loan guarantees, however, the grower must provide information of
   how water quality is protected.
5. Lender visits farm or proposed site. If there are obvious environmental concerns or due diligence
   concerns, evaluate if they can be mitigated or find a new site. (NOTE: The grower must take no
   action to begin preparing the site until FSA has completed its environmental review and issued a
   Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).
6. Grower submits loan application to lender including personal and financial information to lender
7. Lender evaluates feasibility. If not feasible, clean up credit history, find additional income source or
   reduce expenses, find additional or substitute loan security.
8. If feasible, begin getting plans and specifications, applying for permits (verification of all required
   permits (SWPP, CAFO, building and local) are necessary for a complete FSA application)
9. Visit local NRCS office to determine if cost share is available for cost of a Comprehensive Nutrient
   Management Plan (CNMP)
10. Lender determines if an FSA loan guarantee is necessary
11. Lender submits complete request for loan guarantee application to FSA
12. FSA determines if the proposed farm requires publishing of a preliminary public notice of action
    (NOA). If required, the grower must publish in 3 consecutive issues of a daily paper or two
    consecutive issues of a weekly or other publication type paper serving the area where the project is
    located. Proof of publication and copy of publishing furnished to FSA. FSA collects environmental
    information from the grower, lender and managing agencies (USFWS, State Historic Preservation
    Office, National Park Service, TDEC, TWRA, FEMA, etc.) of potential affected resources.
13. FSA proceeds with environmental review once all environmental information has been received (FSA
    must collect environmental information and prepare an environmental review, may take up to 60
    days or longer if potential impact to environment is found)
14. If no significant impact is found, FSA prepares a FONSI which must be published in the same manner
    as the preliminary notice of action. There is a 15 day waiting period for public comment after the last
    publishing date, before a FONSI can be issued. If significant impact is found it must be mitigated if
    possible. If not an environmental impact statement may be necessary or a new project site must be
    located.
15. If comments are received from FONSI publication, FSA must review and evaluate comments and
    determine if project may proceed. If no comments received during comment period, FSA will issue
    the FONSI and the FSA loan guarantee will be approved. Then the lender and grower will decide
    when to close the loan. Once loan is approved, the lender will tell the grower when to begin site
    preparation.
16. A CNMP is NOT necessary to for a grower to close a CAFO loan, however, a lender will not receive a
    loan guarantee until FSA has a copy of a CNMP prepared by a certified preparer.