

Client Guidelines: Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation Annual Levy Support

A. Purpose

These guidelines describe how the Ministry of Agriculture provides support to the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC) for collection of the annual ICDC levy. These guidelines identify data the ministry will share with ICDC and when the data will be provided for existing and new irrigation development.

B. Data Sharing

The Ministry of Agriculture completes an “As Constructed Survey and Record Drawing” form, when new irrigation acres are developed by an intensive irrigator or prescribed person. Once the new development is finalized, the ministry shares the following data with ICDC to support collection of the annual levy from intensive irrigators:

- i. Name of irrigator (company or individual);
- ii. Address of company or individual;
- iii. Email address of company or individual;
- iv. Phone number of company or individual;
- v. Legal land description; and
- vi. Number of acres.

C. Timing

The ministry provides data to ICDC on an ongoing continuous basis. As projects are completed and record drawings are finalized ICDC will be notified. All other data sharing will occur as the ministry receives updates to the WRL transfers or cancelled projects.

D. Authority

The following sections of *The Irrigation Act, 2019* (effective March 20, 2020) apply to these guidelines:

- Section 5-5(f) gives ICDC the right to impose annual charges that it considers appropriate for the services it provides.
- Section 5-5(g) gives ICDC the power to obtain information from the ministry to meet its mandate and purposes.

E. Definitions

As Constructed Survey: an on-site survey conducted by a ministry engineering technologist to document irrigation infrastructure on a particular land location.

ICDC Annual Levy: a charge per irrigated acre to be paid by all irrigators that is set annually by ICDC in bylaw, passed at the annual general meeting and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Intensive Irrigator: a person who:

- a) owns or controls land that receives a prescribed allocation of water from the Crown for irrigation purposes;
- b) is not restricted as to when the prescribed allocation of water may be applied; and
- c) does not have an existing water service agreement with an irrigation district with respect to the land mention in clause (a).

Prescribed Person: A person other than an intensive irrigator who:

- a) receives a minimum water allocation of 1.5 cubic decameters per hectare (six inches per acre) of water; and
- b) irrigates a minimum of four hectares (10 acres) of land using a sprinkler irrigation system.

Record Drawing: a plan that details the irrigation infrastructure specifications and irrigable acres of the project as constructed.

Water Rights Licence (WRL): a licence issued by the Water Security Agency to an irrigation district, an intensive irrigator, or any other prescribed person that provides authority:

- a) in the case of an irrigation district, to supply water for irrigation purposes;
- b) in the case of an intensive irrigator or other prescribed person, to utilize water for irrigation purposes.

F. General

1. The Ministry of Agriculture supports the collection of the annual levy and works collaboratively with ICDC by sharing information.
2. All irrigators are required to pay the annual levy charged by ICDC to comply with *The Irrigation Act, 2019*.
3. Any annual charges not paid by an irrigator become a debt due to ICDC and are subject to collection by ICDC.
4. Irrigators within irrigation districts are billed the ICDC levy as part of their water service charge from the irrigation district. The irrigation district pays the levy to ICDC on behalf of the irrigator.
5. Irrigators not within districts will be billed the ICDC levy from ICDC.

Visit the Ministry of Agriculture [irrigation webpage](#) for more information or contact Crops and Irrigation in Outlook at 306-867-5500.