
The following was adopted as Policy by resolution **2026-03-054** at the **Regular Council Meeting** held on **March 3, 2026**.

PURPOSE

This policy promotes sustainable agricultural practices and supports small-scale farming operations within the District of Lake Country (the “District”) by establishing eligibility criteria that permits **Benefiting Properties** to access **Agricultural Irrigation** at **Agricultural Water Rates**.

POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw 984, 2016 requires a property to have current BC Assessment class 9 (Farm) status in order for **Agricultural Water Rates** to apply, unless otherwise determined by the Director means the District’s Director of Infrastructure Services or Director responsible for Waterworks Systems and infrastructure, or their designate.
- 1.2 This policy provides an opportunity for **Agricultural Water Rates** to apply to properties that meet the eligibility requirements contained herein.

2. DEFINITIONS

“**A1 Zoning**” means Agricultural Zoning as defined in the District’s Zoning Bylaw 561, 2007.

“**Allotment**” has the same meaning as defined in the District’s Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw 984, 2016.

“**Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)**” has the same meaning as defined in the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*.

“**Agricultural Irrigation**” means a water service provided to customers at the **Agricultural Water Rate**.

“**Agricultural Water Rate**” means the water rates and user fees for **Agricultural Irrigation** as established in the District’s Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw 984, 2016.

“**Benefiting Property**” means a parcel that has met the eligibility criteria contained herein.

“**Customer**” has the same meaning as defined in the District’s Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw 984, 2016.

“**Meter**” has the same meaning as defined in the District’s Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw 984, 2016.

3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Properties that do not have current BC Assessment class 9 (Farm) status may apply for **Agricultural Water Rates** if all of the following conditions are met:
 - (a) The property is greater than 1 acre and less than 2 acres in size
 - (b) The property is located within the **ALR** and/or zoned **A1**.
 - (c) A CRA Form T2042 – Statement of Farming Activities is provided as evidence of farming activities.

4. APPLICATION

- 4.1 Property owners must submit a completed a Small-Scale Farm Water Rate Application along with a completed CRA Form T2042 – Statement of Farming Activities to the District, once every three years.
- 4.2 Applications will be reviewed by District staff to determine compliance with this policy. Site inspections may be conducted at the discretion of the District.
- 4.3 Applicants will be notified of approved or denied applications.
- 4.4 Where an application is approved, **Agricultural Irrigation Rates**, in accordance with Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw 984, 2016, will apply as of January 1st of the calendar year in which the application was approved.
- 4.5 Agricultural Irrigation Rates will be applied to approved applications for a period of three years, ending December 31st of the third year.
- 4.6 Property owners are required to resubmit a Small-Scale Farm Water Rate Application and updated CRA Form T2042 – Statement of Farming Activities prior to December 31st of the third year in order to continue receiving Agricultural Irrigation Rates for a subsequent three years.
- 4.7 Property owners that do not resubmit an application and the required CRA Form T2042 by December 31st in the third year of receiving Agricultural Irrigation Rates, will revert to non-agricultural rates in accordance with Water Regulation and Rates Bylaw 984, 2016.

5. INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 Properties approved to receive Agricultural Irrigation Rates in accordance with this policy are required to have a dedicated irrigation water service, **Allotment**, and **Meter** installed at the expense of the owner.

6. APPROVALS, AMENDMENTS AND ANNUAL REVIEWS

Date	Approver	Type

Original signed by Blair Ireland
Mayor

Original signed by Reyna Seabrook
Deputy Corporate Officer