



Irrigation Supply Connections

1. Introduction

This document sets out both Renmark Irrigation Trust's and a property owner's responsibility in relation to the connection and maintenance of an Irrigation Supply Connection.

Customers should read this document in conjunction with the Renmark Irrigation Trust Act and Regulations 2009, associated Rules, and any relevant Trust policy and procedure.

2. Customer Installation Requirements

The installation of any new Irrigation Supply Connection must meet the following requirements:

2.1 Land Type

Irrigation Supply Connections can only be installed on land that is Assessed and has Water Delivery Rights. If the land is not Assessed and the customer intends to irrigate then they must apply for Water Delivery Rights - refer to our factsheet *Land Assessment - Guide to getting Water Delivery Rights* for information. If the land will not be irrigated, then it may be eligible for a Domestic or Industrial Supply Connection – the relevant information documents can be found on our website.

2.2 Payment of Works

The cost for installing a new Irrigation Supply Connection will be dependent on its size, location, and distance from the Trust's network:

- (1) An estimate will be provided once an application is received (refer to the current Schedule of Charges for approximate costs of installation).
- (2) The estimate must be paid before the commencement of any works.
 - (i) A refund will be issued if the total cost is less than estimated;
 - (ii) An additional invoice will be issued if the cost of installation is more than estimated. This must be paid prior to being supplied water.

Note: if a sump and chamber already exist on the property (as the case with some Exit Blocks) there will be no charge to reconnect the meter.

2.3 Water Accounts and Water Allocation

- (1) The customer will be responsible for ensuring they have sufficient Water Allocation on their water account to cover their water use.
- (2) Water accounts must be balanced in accordance with the Trust's quarterly balancing policy.
- (3) Penalties apply if water accounts are not balanced by the due date.

2.4 Supply Connection Location

- Supply Connections must be located outside the property boundary.
- Customers should submit a scalable A3 size site plan with their application, clearly showing the preferred Supply Connection location. Ensure a marker peg is installed on-site at the preferred position. The installation may be delayed if this is not provided.
- The Trust will seek to accommodate the customers preferred Supply Connection location; however, the Trust has the right to determine the final location.
- For installation onto an existing service lead (e.g. installed by Developer as part of subdivision), the meter will be installed by the Trust on the alignment of the existing service lead, with the meter location outside the property boundary.

2.5 Other Conditions of Installation

- Supply connections, including the meter, remain the property of the Trust.
- It is unlawful to interfere with Trust property.
- The property owner, by law, is required to take all reasonable steps to protect the Supply Connection from damage. In the case of damage, the Trust may render an invoice for repairs.
- Customers are responsible for all pipe and pipe fittings from the concrete chamber containing the Supply Connection to the customer's property.
- Customer are responsible for all water which passes through the meter including any leakage.

3. Other Information

3.1 Water Quality

All water supplied by the Trust is untreated River Murray water – it is non-potable and is unfit for human consumption. Before installing any new supply connection, customers must sign form *PT04 – Renmark Irrigation Trust Irrigation System* acknowledging this fact.

3.2 Programmed Shutdowns and Pipe breaks:

The Trust ceases pumping for one week each year to undertake programmed maintenance and repair works. This typically occurs in the first week of May and may run from Sunday evening until Friday evening. Notices are sent in advance advising the times and dates.

Occasionally the repair of pipe breaks disrupts water supply. Supply is restored as soon as possible and usually on the same day.

3.3 Network charges

- (1) If the land is already Assessed there will be no additional fixed charges for the installation of the Irrigation Supply Connection. There will be a Water Delivery Fee for any water used through the meter.
- (2) If the land was not previously Assessed, the following charges would apply:
 - Access Charge

- Water Delivery Fee (Irrigation)

Note – the Access Charge is triggered by Land Assessment, and the Water Delivery Fee only applies to water used. There are no fixed fees associated with an Irrigation Supply Connection.

Current rates can be found on the Trust’s current Schedule of Charges available on our website.

3.4 Payment of Quarterly Accounts

The Trust announces its charges twice a year: in June, for the July to December period; and in December, for the January to June period. Refer to 3.2 for applicable charges.

- (1) Accounts are issued quarterly (July, October, January, December) and must be paid by the due date;
- (2) Interest applies to all overdue accounts, even if a payment plan is in place;
- (3) Accounts that have arrears greater than 180 days will result in the Supply Connection being locked off. A disconnection fee will also apply;
- (4) All fixed charges still apply when a meter is locked off.

4. Application

If you wish to apply for an Irrigation Supply Connection or would like further information please make an appointment with the Trust to discuss your requirements.

The Trust’s timeframe for supply connection installation is generally ten (10) working days from the full payment and approval of the application. There may be an increase to the installation timeframe in some circumstances. It is recommended, therefore, that applications are submitted 3-4 weeks in advance of the required installation date.

5. Definitions

In this document the following words have these meanings unless the contrary intention appears:

Term	Definition/Meaning
Access Charge	The fee to access Renmark Irrigation Trust’s water delivery infrastructure. The fee is based on the hectares of Assessed Land.
Assessed Land	The area assessed by the Trust as all arable land within the boundaries of a land title and shall include areas currently planted or unplanted such as headlands, tracks, windbreaks, drying greens, gardens, residential buildings, sheds or other infrastructure. All parcels of land that are Assessed, remain Assessed, even if divided for domestic allotments.
Supply Connection	A water delivery point which incorporates a water meter.
Water Allocation	Means the right to take a specific volume of water allocated to Water Entitlements in a given water year.
Water Delivery Rights	Is a customer’s ongoing right to access a proportion of the Trust’s water distribution system to delivery water to their property. Water Delivery Rights are based on the volume of site use approval available to the Trust and the capacity of the distribution system;
Water Entitlement	Also referred to as Irrigation Right, means a right that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) a person has against the Trust to receive water; (2) is not a Water Access Entitlement or a Water Delivery Right.