

## APPENDIX 5 TO THE RISK MITIGATION PROGRAM TERMS AND CONDITIONS IRRIGATION CONVEYANCE WORKS SUBJECT AREA CRITERIA DOCUMENT

### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The Irrigation Conveyance Works Subject Area provides support for studies, projects and the development of tools to mitigate risks to enhance the long term viability and sustainability of irrigation infrastructure in Alberta.

### 2. Definitions

- 2.1 In this Irrigation Conveyance Works Subject Area Criteria Document, the following terms have the following meanings:
- (a) **Irrigation Conveyance Works:** means structures, devices and artificial bodies of water used by the Applicant to convey water to multiple recipients for agricultural irrigation and includes dikes, dams, weirs, drainage works, reservoirs, canals, and pipes, but does not include on-farm irrigation systems (e.g. pivots, side roll wheel moves, gravity systems);
  - (b) **Irrigation District:** means a district established under the *Irrigation Districts Act* (Alberta);
  - (c) **Irrigator:** means an owner or lessee of a parcel of land with agricultural irrigation acres;
  - (d) **Registered Association:** means a registered society incorporated under the Societies Act (Alberta); and
  - (e) **Subject Area:** means the Irrigation Conveyance Works Subject Area under the Program.

### 3. Eligible Applicants

- 3.1 The following entities are eligible to apply under this Subject Area:
- (a) Irrigation Districts;
  - (b) Registered Associations representing Irrigation Districts in Alberta, including the Alberta Irrigation Projects Association (AIPA) or other similar associations;
  - (c) Registered Associations representing groups of Irrigators who share access to and use of Irrigation Conveyance Works in Alberta, and whose purpose is the development or improvement of these works; and
  - (d) Indian Bands or Metis Settlements owning and operating Irrigation Conveyance Works in Alberta.
- 3.2 The following entities are not eligible under this Subject Area:
- (a) municipalities;
  - (b) Irrigators; and
  - (c) any other entity deemed ineligible by the Minister.

#### 4. Eligible Activities

- 4.1** Activities that may be included in an Application under this Subject Area are risk mitigation studies, projects, and/or development of tools (e.g. programs, applications, protocols) that support and enhance sustainable management of Irrigation Conveyance Works and/or reduce risks to Irrigation Conveyance Works operations and water delivery.
- 4.2** Activities that are ineligible under this Subject Area include:
- (a) any project or activity that would be eligible for funding under the Irrigation Rehabilitation Program;
  - (b) any project or activity related only to non-agricultural use of water delivered through the Irrigation Conveyance Works;
  - (c) any project or activity related to routine operations and maintenance of the Irrigation Conveyance Works; and
  - (d) any other activity deemed by the Minister to be ineligible.

#### 5. Eligible Expenses

- 5.1** The following expenses may be included in an Application under this Subject Area:
- (a) incremental costs of salaried or contract services for the study, project or development of tools described in s. 4.1;
  - (b) costs of purchasing equipment, hardware or software required to carry out the study, project or development of tools described in s. 4.1;
  - (c) reasonable travel expenses for travel within Alberta directly related to the Project in accordance with the Travel Expense Policy; and
  - (d) In-Kind Contributions up to a maximum of 25% of the total Eligible Expenses.
- 5.2** Expenses that are ineligible under this Subject Area include:
- (a) Goods and Services Tax (GST);
  - (b) financing fees and interest charges;
  - (c) legal fees;
  - (d) expenses incurred by the Applicant outside the Project Term;
  - (e) expenses incurred in Non-Arm's Length Transactions;
  - (f) costs incurred by the Applicant to prepare the Application;
  - (g) costs for ongoing routine maintenance and costs associated with regular business activities;
  - (h) costs for normal (day-to-day) operations and general office equipment, as well as overhead, salary and maintenance costs;
  - (i) costs funded through any other federal, provincial or municipal government grants, programs or projects; and
  - (j) any other expense deemed by the Minister to be an ineligible expense.

## **6. Processing of Applications**

- 6.1** Applications completed to the satisfaction of the Minister will be considered for approval on a case-by-case basis, subject to Subject Area eligibility criteria, assessment criteria, and funding constraints.

## **7. Subject Area Assessment Criteria**

- 7.1** Subject Area assessment criteria by which Applications will be assessed are:
- (a) demonstrated need for the Proposed Project (i.e., nature of risk being addressed by the Proposed Project and need to mitigate that risk);
  - (b) degree of benefit of the Proposed Project to Irrigators within an Irrigation District, Registered Association, Indian Band, or Metis Settlement;
  - (c) degree the Proposed Project will generate new public information that is of significant benefit to mitigating risks to Irrigation Conveyance Works;
  - (d) demonstrated technical merit of the Proposed Project; and
  - (e) the extent to which the Application demonstrates the Applicant's capacity and readiness to execute the Proposed Project based on available financial resources, necessary experience, and skills (to manage, lead and execute the Project), and detailed Proposed Project timelines that are realistic and attainable.

## **8. Funding Levels and Grant Payment**

- 8.1** This Subject Area provides grants on a cost-shared basis to cover Eligible Expenses for approved Projects up to:
- (a) a maximum of \$300,000 per Project; and
  - (b) a cumulative maximum of \$300,000 per Applicant under this Subject Area over the Program Term.
- 8.2** Eligible Expenses shall be cost-shared at 50% grant and 50% Applicant.
- 8.3** Payments to the Applicant will be made as follows:
- (a) upon execution of the Executed Agreement, an initial payment of 50% of the maximum approved grant amount stated in the Executed Agreement; and
  - (b) the remaining 50% of the maximum approved grant amount shall be paid over the Project Term upon receipt of Status Reports and/or the Final Report, as specified in the schedule in the Executed Agreement.

After submission of the Final Report, if the sum of all previous grant payments exceeds the total Eligible Expenses claimed by the Applicant multiplied by the applicable funding level, no final payment will be made and the Applicant shall immediately pay the unused grant funds to the Provincial Crown.