



Water Management Policy

Excess Flow

OVERVIEW

Maniototo Irrigation Company (MIC) requires irrigators to give 48 hours' notice to the operations team before they shut off and switch on takes. However, there will always be exceptions, rain events, breakdowns, power surges or other circumstances that can cease extraction without notice. It is important that we have policy to cover how excess flow in the distribution system can be shared efficiently within our company.

PURPOSE OF POLICY

The aim of this policy is to provide clear guidance of how the operations team are to deal with excess water in the system. It is designed to ensure shareholders are treated fairly and to manage issues that arise if expectations are not followed.

Principles

1. The board seeks to promote clear communication between irrigators and the operations team around their water requirements.
2. The board wants to reduce the need for operations staff to by-wash all excess water and promote efficiency for delivery.
3. The board accepts that locality on the scheme will influence how water is distributed among irrigators.
4. The board is providing clear guidelines/rules for irrigators and operations staff to follow when excess water has been taken or excess water has been left in the system and the way this water is accounted for.

APPLICATION

This policy applies to all MIC shareholders, irrigators & operations staff.

POLICY

1.1 Method

1. Operations team identifies where excess water is in the system by using mapping, flow measurements or other methods.
2. The operations team uses their best judgement to identify where on the scheme this additional water could be taken.
3. First consideration for excess water should be given to the people who have not used their full allocation to date within the period or have storage available.
4. All records of excess flow allocated will be kept and will be counted towards the annual total water usage for each shareholder, unless discussed and approved by the GM under exceptional circumstances.
5. If there are continuing reasons for excess flow that can be avoided, then the operations manager must report this to the General Manager.
6. If after multiple (2-3+) events the excess water is shown to be caused by a shareholder or irrigator not providing 48 hours' notice of intent to turn off or other reasons, the board has the right to issue an infringement notice and recover the cost of this water loss (volume loss at base charge).
7. When excess water is by-washed and/or taken by a shareholder the ops team and management will review this to avoid the loss in the future.
8. Regular reminders to shareholders around water ordering and the timeframes will be provided via communication from MIC management.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed annually as per the boards policy review cycle.

Version Control:

Version	Prepared by	Date Prepared	Reviewed by	Date Adopted by Board
V1	Renee	21/12/2023	Board	1 st August 2024