

Policy of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District

Subject: Condition under which the District may consider providing access to and use of its water distribution facilities for wheeling of non-District supplies by third parties

Dated: January 2021

Background

Lower Tule River Irrigation District has received several requests from individuals or entities who want to tie into the District distribution system to wheel water from one property to another.

Additional Considerations

It is possible that the District could receive multiple requests to use capacity at the same time of year. Managing multiple agreements and allocating excess capacities out to different entities who are all going to want to use the system at the same time, presents challenges beyond the ability of the District to overcome. This would threaten the core mission of the District, which is to manage the delivery and recharge of imported water supply for the benefit of the landowners of the District. The District would also like to provide flexibility for the landowners to be able to have access to excess capacity when it is available.

Policy

In light of the foregoing facts and determinations, it shall be the policy of LTRID as follows:

- 1) The District will review all requests for use of District facilities to wheel non-District supplies on a case by case basis. Requests shall be specific as to time and quantity of use being requested.
 - a) The District will approve a request only if it determines that the use of the requested capacity will not interfere with and will adequately preserve the priority use of the facilities to meet District landowner demand, or other use by the District, including delivery to groundwater recharge facilities.
 - b) In the event of several competing requests, which would be difficult or impossible to meet in the collective, or if there is no excess capacity available, the District

retains discretion to deny all requests even if individually one or more of the requests could be accommodated.

- 2) In the event the District determines that a wheeling request can be accommodated, the District shall approve the request under the following terms and conditions:
 - a) Capacity shall not be provided except in the months provided in the request.
 - b) Even during the times that capacity is provided, District reserves the right to first use all capacity, at any time, for all District operations, both for irrigation demand and recharge operations, as well as potential increased future activities.
 - c) The requesting party shall be responsible for all costs of installing any new turnouts and meters needed on the District system to make these deliveries. District shall maintain ownership of the turnout and may require that the District undertake the installation directly, in which case the requesting party will reimburse the District for its costs.
 - d) Only well water or non-District surface water supplies imported can be wheeled in the District facilities. Under no circumstances will effluent, manure or other poor-quality water be wheeled in District facilities. Upon evidence that poor-quality water has been introduced into District facilities, the District will immediately lock the turnout and terminate the deliveries without notification to the landowner.
 - e) Well water being wheeled from one property to another of the same landownership will not be charged a wheeling fee.
 - f) The wheeling fee for delivery of imported landowner surface water or transport of water to another landowner will be assessed and shall be equal to the then-current District operations and maintenance budget divided by the average annual water supply. As an example; 2021 LTRID O&M budget \$3,022,818/195,243 acre feet annual average = \$15.48/acre-foot. .
 - g) The wheeling of imported surface water will be subject to a delivery loss factor. The delivery loss factor will be equal to the same delivery loss rates as the District deliveries during the period of delivery. Credits for the losses will go to the District.