

NEWSLETTER

INVOICE BY EMAIL

We would prefer to send accounts directly via email. Please advise us of your email address and meter number at admin@keriirrigation.co.nz

CHAIRMAN CHANGE

Rick Curtis stood down as Chairman of the KIC at the July Directors meeting. Rick has provided many years of outstanding service to the KIC as a Director and as Chairman. The Directors passed a resolution thanking Rick for his input over many years. Rick remains a Director of the company.

Carl Muller was appointed as Chairman at the July Directors meeting. Carl is very closely involved with horticultural industry in Kerikeri and brings considerable experience to the role.

Algae Bloom

It was disappointing to have an outbreak of blue green algae in the Manuwai Reservoir in June this year. KIC has been working closely with NIWA and conducting weekly water sample testing. The

concentration levels of algae remain above the level for safe recreational contact and are hovering around the levels of being unsuitable for stock consumption **IF** the algae was to turn toxic.

It is **not** toxic at present but can become toxic as it dies off or if affected by changes in climate conditions. FNDC, NRC and all major recreational users are being kept informed on a weekly basis.

Secure Your Own Water Supply on Property

It is noticeable some customers are relying on a continuous water supply direct from the KIC meter for on-property critical water use. Whether this is a cowshed or for non-commercial use, if you rely

on an uninterrupted supply for on-property use 24/7 (other than for horticultural irrigation) then you should arrange on property storage for a minimum of 24 hours back up supply. The KIC supplies non-

potable water primarily for irrigation and does not have resources to respond to minor repairs 24/7 to ensure uninterrupted on-property supply.

Frequency of Invoices

Currently each customer is invoiced three times annually (September, January and May). The majority of

invoices are for less than \$150 incl GST. Your Directors will be giving consideration to reducing the number of

times we invoice you each year. Your feedback on this is welcomed.

Health and Safety

KIC continues to improve Health and Safety procedures across all company activities. There is a number of infrastructure

upgrades and system operating procedure improvements budgeted for in the 2017/18 year. KIC has a good track record of safe

working processes. Staff safety and welfare is a very high priority for your Directors.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The company's AGM open to all eligible shareholders will be held on Thursday 23 November 2017 at 4.00pm at the Kerikeri RSA in Cobham Rd, Kerikeri. A notice of meeting and voting papers will be sent to shareholders in early November.

WATER QUALITY

In conjunction with the Northland Regional Council water samples are collected on a regular basis to be analyzed and checked against guidelines for irrigation water. It is important to remember that the water supplied by the Company has not been filtered and is supplied directly from the Irrigation Reservoirs. **The water supplied is for irrigation purposes and is an untreated surface supply that is microbiologically unsafe and is of a non-potable standard. It is not suitable for household use.**

Annual Charges

Your Directors have agreed to the charges that will apply for the period 1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018. Non-commercial connections will have no

increase in price from last year.

Commercial connections will have a very small increase on fixed charges (meter and per hectare) of

\$3.00. This is based on, but less than, the producers price index calculated annually by Statistics NZ.

Investment Options

A sub-committee of Directors have met to consider the most appropriate investment strategy for any capital reserves the company may hold. To date the policy has been very conservative with bank term deposits

favoured as the lowest risk and a fairly reasonable return. Lower interest rates mean budgeted income is significantly reduced in this financial year compared to the last. The Directors are seeking input from shareholders on a future

investment strategy that is right for the level of risk versus return that shareholders are comfortable with. An agenda item to discuss will be tabled at the company AGM.

Commercial Irrigators

A reminder the KIC will be carrying out spot checks this irrigation season on commercial connections to monitor the amount of water irrigators are drawing from their meter. This will be compared to their

allocation of litres per minute flow.

Generally you are allowed 24 litres per minute for every irrigable hectare preapproved in your water supply agreement. Drawing more than your agreed

allocation will likely result in flow restrictors being placed in your meter.

Taking more than your agreed allocation can impact on water pressure for other users on the same line.

On Supply to Neighbours from Your Meter

Some connections have been discovered on supplying other properties illegally. A recent discovery shows the KIC has been deprived of approx. \$8,000 annual income which, as a

co-operative company affects everybody.

Where it is evident the supplier is aware their connection is on supplying illegally to neighbours the KIC reserves the right to

disconnect that supplier permanently. The receiver of an illegal supply will be given one month to make alternative arrangements before the illegal supply is discontinued.

KERIKERI IRRIGATION

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