

NEWSLETTER

Asset Refurbishment Program

Refurbishment of the Manuwai turbine/pump shed (five pumps, three turbines and a huge electrical circuit board plus associated pipe and electrical work) is the only significant above ground asset still to be upgraded. To date over \$800,000 has been spent on pumps, motors, pressure reducing valves etc.

A plan is being developed to minimize water outage while this work is carried out but some interruption to supply can be expected. Connections in the Northern part of the scheme will be kept informed.

Work is underway to replace 2 kilometers of original 600mm diameter asbestos concrete pipe from the southern dam to Waimate North Road. Because of all the rain the project will not be completed this winter.

The southern area has been operating since June from a temporary pump shed installed in Valencia Lane. The main line will be back in action before peak flows are required for the irrigation season. Work on this project will recommence next March or April 2023.

This work is costing the Kerikeri Irrigation Co approximately 3 million dollars.

Smart Meters and Excess Water draw off Monitoring

So far approximately 130 of our 300 commercial customers have had a new smart meter installed. These have a battery life of approximately 15 years. They can be programmed to record actual flow of litres per minute plus other information. All smart meters will again be monitored to ensure a property is not drawing more than its allocated flow. Your directors have decided that corrective action will be taken with any connection drawing more than its allocated flow rate. To date first infringements = 26, second infringements = 13, third infringements = 2.

Charges Applying From 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023 (excl. GST)

COMMERCIAL	\$	NON-COMMERCIAL	\$
Annual water meter charge	253	Annual allowance for 500,000 Litres	587
Annual charge per irrigable hectare	274	Excess usage over allocation/m ³	55.7 cents
Per m ³ water used	5.66 cents		
Per m ³ allocated but not used	1.74 cents		
Excess usage over allocation/m ³	55.7 cents		

Fee increases

Unfortunately, the Irrigation company's costs are increasing along with everything else.

There is also a need to generate funds to pay for the refurbishment of the assets that the industry was given approx. 40 years ago. The directors are committed to making sure the scheme is fit for purpose at least 40 years into the future. The directors took these factors into account when setting the 2022/2023 seasons fees. Commercial connections have increased by 9% and noncommercial connections by 5%. These are modest increases compared to the inflationary pressures being felt in all sectors. Pipe and valve cost have increased by more than 15% as an example.

Email Notifications

If you received this newsletter in the mail, you are one of 190 out of 1550 connections we do not have an email address for. We cannot advise you of interruptions to water supply to your meter and updates when supply will resume.

REMEMBER.... The water supplied is for irrigation, stock, and outdoor use only. It is untreated and not intended or fit for domestic use.

KERIKERI IRRIGATION