

SA On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme

Guidelines – December 2023 (Round 4)

Please note the Scheme will close when the \$8 million funding for this round is exhausted or will close 5.00pm (ACST) 30 April 2024 for other Scheme purposes, whichever occurs first.

1. Aim of scheme

The Government of South Australia in partnership with the Australian Government is providing a rebate of up to 25 per cent (to a maximum of \$25,000 - GST exclusive) to Primary Producers for the costs associated with the purchase and installation of new on-farm water infrastructure, or to repair or replace damaged infrastructure for livestock and permanent horticulture that:

- addresses animal welfare needs during drought
- assists primary producers to be more resilient for future droughts
- assists primary producers to be more resilient for future droughts by protecting high value horticultural assets
- support primary producer recovery from Natural Disasters.

The Australian Government is providing a 12.5 per cent rebate (up to \$12,500) matched by the Government of South Australia (up to \$12,500) to be able to offer a rebate of up to 25 per cent (max \$25,000 per primary producer).

Applicants must pay the full cost of the infrastructure. After taking into consideration any rebate payable, the applicant must contribute a minimum of 75% of the total cost of the infrastructure. Other government funding including grants or concessional loans or funding from insurance claims cannot be applied towards the applicant's contribution.

Primary Producers in South Australia that received funding in rounds 1-4 of the On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme will have those payments deducted from the maximum amount available under Round 4 unless applying for eligible activities under Natural Disaster.



2. Assistance available

25 per cent rebate

A 25 per cent rebate is available for:

- costs associated with the purchase and delivery of new livestock water infrastructure including labour for an external contractor to install, and repair or replace damaged water infrastructure incurred between 1 July 2018 and 30 April 2024
- costs associated with the purchase and installation of new water infrastructure including labour for an external contractor to install, and repair or replace damaged water infrastructure for existing permanent horticultural plantings incurred between 1 July 2019 and 30 April 2024
- costs associated with the purchase and delivery of water infrastructure including labour for an external contractor to install, and repair or replace damaged water infrastructure for primary producers impacted by a natural disaster that occurred after 1 January 2022 with repairs or replacement of infrastructure completed by 30 April 2024.

Rebate limits

- the maximum rebate available per primary production business is \$25,000 (i.e. max \$25,000 per ABN) across Rounds 1 to 4 of this Scheme and includes previous applications to the On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme unless applying for eligible activities under Natural Disaster
- the Scheme will close when the \$8 million funding for this round is exhausted or will close 5.00pm (ACST) 30 April 2024 for other Scheme purposes, whichever occurs first
- more than one rebate application can be made to the Scheme, subject to the maximum rebate available
- the availability of rebates is subject to funds being available for the Scheme.

Applicant eligibility

To apply for this rebate under the Scheme the following conditions must be met:

- a) You are a property owner, share-farmer or lessee in the livestock grazing industry or horticulture industry.
- b) Your business is registered with the Australian Taxation Office as a Primary Producer and has an Australian Business Number (ABN) and is registered for GST.
- c) Your property is located in South Australia.
- d) As the property owner and operator, share-farmer or lessee:
 - i. you earn more than 50 per cent of your gross income from your Primary Production Business under normal seasonal circumstances
 - OR
 - ii. you have commenced your farming operation between 1 July 2018 and 30 April 2024 and 50 per cent of your gross income will be derived from your Primary Production Business



within three years of the date of your Application. Eligibility of new entrants will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- e) The water infrastructure in respect of your application is installed for livestock permanently residing on your property or for permanent horticultural plantings established on your property.
- f) You purchased and installed new eligible water infrastructure, or repaired or replaced damaged water infrastructure for livestock on or after 1 July 2018; or
- g) You purchased and installed new eligible water infrastructure, or repaired or replaced damaged water infrastructure for existing permanent horticultural plantings on or after 1 July 2019; or
- h) You repaired or replaced damaged eligible water infrastructure impacted by a Natural Disaster after 1 January 2022 with repair or replacement completed by 30 April 2024.
- i) You are required to contribute a minimum of 75% of the costs after any eligible rebate, excluding insurance or other Government grants or concessional loans.
- j) You have not received funding from another South Australian/Australian Government program in respect of the same activities.

You are not eligible to apply for funding under the Program if you did not meet all the terms and conditions placed on any previous Government of South Australia funding, grant or concessional loan provided to you.

3. Eligible activities

Rebates apply to the purchase and installation of new emergency water infrastructure, or repairs or replacement of damaged water infrastructure for:

- livestock (incurred after 1 July 2018)
- permanent horticultural plantings (incurred from 1 July 2019)
- Natural Disaster (disaster occurred after 1 January 2022) as listed below

Livestock – New, repaired or replaced infrastructure (25 per cent rebate from 1 July 2018)

- a) pipes
- b) water storage devices such as tanks and troughs associated with stock watering
- c) water pumps and associated water distribution systems (includes desalination plants, leak detection units, water level sensors, dam covers, plastic sheeting)
- d) de-silting works of existing dams and sludge removal from tanks and bores
- e) drilling of new stock groundwater bores and associated power supply such as generators
- f) other materials or equipment necessary to install the above (excluding machinery purchase)
- g) any freight component to purchase and install the equipment
- h) the professional installation costs to install the water infrastructure¹.



Horticulture – New, repaired or replaced infrastructure (25 per cent rebate from 1 July 2019)

- a) drilling of new groundwater bores and associated power supply (includes generators, desalination plants)
- b) pipes associated with connecting to new water sources as an emergency measure
- c) de-silting works of existing dams, where you can demonstrate that the property does not have access to groundwater
- d) other materials or equipment necessary to install the above (excluding purchase of machinery)
- e) any freight component to purchase and install the equipment
- f) the professional installation costs to install the water infrastructure¹.

Natural Disaster –Repaired or replaced infrastructure (25 per cent rebate after 1 January 2022)

- a) pipes
- b) associated with connecting to new water sources as an emergency measure
- c) water storage devices such as tanks and troughs associated with stock watering
- d) water pumps and associated water distribution systems (includes desalination plants, leak detection units, water level sensors, dam covers, plastic sheeting)
- e) irrigation channel/drain clearing
- f) irrigation structures e.g. sluices, siphons
- g) meters
- h) laser levelling of flood irrigation systems
- i) de-silting works of existing dams and sludge removal from tanks and bores
- j) drilling of new stock groundwater bores and associated power supply such as generators
- k) other materials or equipment necessary to install the above (excluding machinery purchase)
- l) any freight component to purchase and install the equipment
- m) the professional installation costs to install the water infrastructure¹

4. Ineligible activities

Rebates are not available for:

- water infrastructure that has been purchased to irrigate broad acre and crops that are harvested annually and require replanting i.e. not permanent plantings
- construction of new dams

¹ Where external contractors are not practical or available in the circumstances to conduct works, reasonable employee and/or own labour costs (with supporting documentation eg timesheets) will be considered on a case by case basis for the 25% Rebate.



- any obligations under statutory requirements (e.g. GAB bore capping)
- water infrastructure to supply livestock where you have made a financial commitment prior to 1 July 2018
- water infrastructure to supply permanent horticultural plantings where you have made a financial commitment prior to 1 July 2019
- water infrastructure for primary producers impacted by Natural Disaster where you have made a financial commitment on or before 1 January 2022.

5. Applications

Applications will be reviewed against the criteria outlined in these guidelines.

Applicants should carefully consider activities against the eligibility criteria set out in the guidelines before submitting an application. Enquiries are welcome during business hours via the PIRSA Recovery Information Line 1800 931 314.

Complete applications will be assessed in order of receipt. Incomplete applications will not enter the assessment queue until all required information is provided.

Applicants are required to warrant that the information provided in the application form is true and correct in every particular.

Submitted applications may be subject to audit to determine compliance with guidelines.

How to apply

Applicants must submit their completed application together with all supporting documentation to PIRSA using the Scheme Application form. Required supporting documentation includes:

- A copy of your latest council rates notice or other evidence of land ownership for the land on which the water infrastructure is or is to be installed. Alternatively, if the property is leased or share-farmed, please attach a copy of the current lease or share-farming agreement.
- Applicants must supply copies of all Tax Invoices or Receipts evidencing expenditure incurred and photos of completed water infrastructure implemented (or other evidence of installation). Tax Invoices and Receipts must show full details of the goods or services supplied, clearly identifiable as related to water infrastructure costs, must identify the GST exclusive cost of those goods or services and must include the applicant's business name, address and ABN.
- Applicant must provide copies of any approvals required to complete activities as part of this application.

Natural disaster

Applicants must provide in their application evidence demonstrating the direct damage associated with the eligible disaster. This may include:

- a) Photographs clearly showing damage to the property with a brief explanation of what they are showing contained in the title or name and the date the damage occurred; or
- b) Information that demonstrates the financial impact of the damage, such as quotations, damage assessments, advisory reports, invoices or receipts. This information must include the name,



address, date and ABN (if applicable) of the entity that has issued the quote, assessment, invoice or receipt with information clearly identifying the work required, eg water damage.

In circumstances where direct disaster related damage is unable to be photographed or other information (such as receipts) are not available, PIRSA may request the applicant provide further information to inform itself of an applicant's eligibility.

Application submission

Applications with supporting evidence (invoices and evidence of payment) are submitted online via https://pir.sa.gov.au/funding_and_support/funding/emergency_on_farm_water

Close of Scheme

The Scheme will close when the \$8 million funding for this round is exhausted or will close 5.00 p.m. (ACST) 30 April 2024 for other Scheme purposes, whichever occurs first. Late applications will not be accepted.

6. Assessment and payment processes

PIRSA reserves the right to request further information from you (including financial information to verify primary producer status) to assist with the assessment of your application or to verify any information provided in your application.

The Minister (or delegate) will make the final decision on approval of all applications.

Rebate administration process

Payment of the rebate will be made following an assessment of the application, including applicant eligibility, receipt of evidence of expenditure incurred based on evidence such as tax invoices, receipts, and photographs. GST expenses incurred by the applicant will be excluded for the purposes of the rebate calculation.

7. Other Information

Personal information collected as part of the program application and assessment process will be used for purposes including assessment of the application. The Minister or PIRSA may obtain and exchange any information with third parties in the assessment of your application.

PIRSA has policies relating to the privacy of your personal information, for further information refer to the [PIRSA Privacy Statement](#).



Applicants are required to:

- declare that they are a primary producer who normally spends more than 50 per cent of their labour on, and derives more than 50 per cent of their gross income from, a Primary Production Business
- retain all tax invoices for expenditure in relation to which the application is made for at least two years following the application
- consent to a PIRSA officer undertaking an inspection of the property and auditing records to verify the claim
- understand their legal rights and obligations under this Scheme. Before applying for financial assistance under this Scheme or making any decision to accept a rebate, applicants should seek independent advice from their legal, business and financial advisers regarding the legal and taxation implications of the financial assistance.

More information

For further information please contact: PIRSA Recovery, Department of Primary Industries and Regions

Phone: 1800 931 314 **Email:** PIRSA.Recovery@sa.gov.au



Definitions

Application form	The online form that applicants use to apply for funding under the program.
Eligible activities	Activities that meet the requirements set out in section 3 of these guidelines.
Eligible applicant	A legal entity that meets the requirements set out in section 2. Applicant Eligibility of these guidelines.
Evidence of payment	Evidence of payment for expenditure incurred. This can be supplied in the form of an official receipt from the supplier or bank transfer or bank statement evidencing payment.
Infrastructure	Infrastructure listed under eligible activities.
Invoice	<p>Invoices need to include the name, address and ABN (if applicable) of the entity that issued the invoice and a description of each item to which the invoice relates which is clearly identifiable as being related to approved expenditure for the applicant.</p> <p>The goods and services described on each invoice must be clearly identifiable as having been paid by the applicant and being related to the eligible activities claimable under these guidelines.</p>
Legal entity	An individual, statutory corporation, incorporated association, cooperative as defined in the <i>Co-operatives National Law (South Australia) Act 2013</i> or company registered under the <i>Corporations Act 2001</i> (Cth) and includes a partnership comprising legal entities or the trustee of a trust.
Lease Agreement	A formal written lease agreement setting out the terms and conditions between the parties to rent a property, for the purpose of primary production, and for a specified period.
Livestock	Livestock means animals kept or usually kept in a domestic or captive state, including poultry, fish or crustaceans kept at a fish farm or in an aquarium, and bees for which a hive is kept as per the <i>Livestock Act 1997</i> .
Minister	The Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Natural Disaster	Is one or a combination of the following rapid onset events: bushfire, earthquake, flood, storm, cyclone, storm surge, landslide, tsunami, meteorite strike, or tornado (whereby a primary producer is impacted).
Permanent plantings	Trees, vines or bushes upon which crops are produced without annual replanting.



	Excludes broad acre crops and crops that are harvested annually and require replanting ie not permanent plantings.
PIRSA	Department of Primary Industries and Regions
Primary Producer	An individual, partnership, trust or company operating a primary production business.
Primary Production Business	A primary production business as defined in the <i>Income Tax Assessment Act 1997</i> (Cth).
Share farming agreement	A formal written share farming agreement to manage the operations of the share farming detailing the responsibilities for management and costs.

