

Deferred Payments for Rural Extensions

Purpose

The intent of this policy is to establish the parameters for deferred payment arrangements for landowner contributions for rural mains extensions.

Policy Objectives

The objective of this Policy is to:

- Provide clear guidance to Riverina Water staff in making arrangements with landowners to facilitate time payment arrangements for their costs in paying for rural mains extensions.
- Provide information to members of the public about what arrangements can be made for deferred payment for rural mains extensions.
- Ensure that a consistent approach is made for deferred payment arrangements at low cost.
- Ensure that rural consumers are assisted in access to an affordable potable water supply.

Scope

This policy is applicable to landowner contributions for rural mains extensions only.

Definitions

Rural Mains Extension	Rural non-urban extension and connection to lots over 20 hectares.
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Policy

Applications for rural mains extensions are to be made formally in writing. All offers made by Riverina Water for deferred payments will be on the same basis in accordance with this policy.

A provision is to be included in the acceptance letter from the landowner, agreeing to Riverina Water applying the applicable local government interest rate to outstanding amounts, in the case of default.

The policy allows for costs up to \$50,000 to be spread over five annual payments. The first payment is to be made prior to work commencing, meaning that the series is over 48 months.

For any extension costing over \$50,000, the applicant can still benefit under the policy by paying the value above \$50,000 up front, prior to work commencing.

Rural non-urban extensions and connections to lots over 20 hectares may pay the costs under a deferred payment scheme which recognises the long distances involved. The specific terms are that:

- The components of cost that qualify for deferred payments include the extension costs and development servicing charge (headworks), but not the service connection fee.
- Payments up to the value of \$50,000 are due in five equal instalments at 0, 12, 24, 36 and 48 months. Payment towards these instalments can be arranged to be made weekly, fortnightly, monthly, annually or any other frequency that is convenient for the applicant.
- Payments over the value of \$50,000 to be paid with the balance above \$50,000 paid at 0 months and the remainder over 48 months as above.
- 0 months is immediately prior to the commencement of construction
- Interest will be charged on overdue amounts at the current maximum rate set by the NSW Office of Local Government.

- Recovery of any unpaid amounts will be in accordance with Section 695 of the Local Government Act 1993, which may include referral to an external debt recovery agency.

Policy number	POL 4.04
Responsible area	Chief Executive Officer
Approved by	Riverina Water Board – Res 23/038
Approval date	27 April 2023
Legislation or related strategy	Not Applicable.
Documents associated with this policy	Nil
Policy history	Approval – 10/110 – June 2010 Name Change from 1.14 – 22 November 2013 Revision 1 – 15/153 – 28 October 2015 Revision 2 – 20/009 – 26 Feb 2020
Review schedule	4 Years

Policy details may change prior to review date due to legislative or other changes, therefore this document is uncontrolled when printed.

END OF POLICY STATEMENT