PURPOSE OF THE FINANCIAL INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR CANE GROWERS IN THE BURDEKIN:
CANEGROWERS and Queensland Department Natural Resources and Mines have identified cost-effective opportunities to improve water use efficiency on farms. The Financial Incentives Program aims to assist growers achieve more profitable results from improved irrigation practices and for CANEGROWERS to deliver programs to growers to increase efficiency of existing irrigation resources and systems. This scheme is a critical part of the Rural Water Use Efficiency – Irrigation Futures (RWUE-IF) Initiative and has links to current industry adoption programs. It is anticipated the money available will be spent quickly so growers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible so they do not miss out.

NATURE OF DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO GROWERS: Incentive to increase irrigation efficiency in Burdekin Region
This component of the scheme provides for a 50 per cent rebate (up to a maximum of $40,000 per farm) on the pre-GST costs associated with improving irrigation efficiency. Improvements in irrigation efficiency will target practices that minimise deep drainage to reduce the volume of water contributing to groundwater rise. These practices could include, but are not limited to:

1. Irrigation infrastructure to monitor and improve irrigation management. These includes risers, T pieces, valves, water meters, pipes or recycle pits to manage increased inflow rates
2. Sensors and telemetry. This includes sensors or probes placed at, or near, the end of paddocks to detect when water has arrived. Also any telemetry gear required to call mobile phones or signal to valves to shut off irrigation
3. Automation equipment. This includes any new valves, T pieces, software or other equipment required to automatically change from irrigating one set to the next
4. Reducing row lengths to increase irrigation efficiencies
5. Irrigation system change (e.g. drip or overhead)
6. Irrigation scheduling tools.

Approved applicants will have six months after approval to provide necessary receipts and documentation. The scheme began on 1 January 2014. Purchases made on or after this date will be eligible provided they fall within the guidelines in the information kit, approval is obtained and funds are available.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BEFORE SIGNING THE APPLICATION.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

1. Applicant must grow sugarcane, have a current cane supply contract and have an established irrigation system.
2. The target area is the Burdekin Groundwater Management Area (BGMA). The sub areas of Leichhardt on the right bank of the Burdekin River and Millaroo and Dalbeg on the left bank may also be eligible.
3. Growers must have done an irrigation assessment undertaken by the Rural Water Use Efficiency-IF extension officer. The incentives application must be consistent with the recommendations made in the RWUE-IF extension officer’s irrigation assessment of your farm.
4. Applicant must provide an ABN and the Farm Name used on the Cane Supply Contract with a Queensland sugar mill.
5. Applicant must grow sugarcane on at least 20 hectares.
6. No means test on application.
7. Applicant must live in Queensland.
8. Equipment must remain on the farm stated in the application.
9. Financial Incentive Rebate applies to new equipment only. No second hand equipment is eligible for a rebate unless in exceptional circumstances this is approved by the assessment panel.
10. Financial Incentive Rebate applies to purchases from 1 January 2014 (based on date on order form or date of first payment, whichever is earliest).
11. Maximum Financial Incentive Rebate is $40,000 per farm business as decided by the assessment panel. If there are sufficient funds available, farmers with multiple farms may be eligible for additional incentives for new works at the sole discretion of the RWUE-IF sugar program coordinator.
12. Rebate is a percentage of the pre-GST purchase price (growers pay for and receive back the GST themselves).
13. Applications will be processed based on chronological order of receipt of approved applications at CANEGROWERS state office.
14. Applications will be approved if they meet the criteria, meet the terms and conditions, are approved by the assessment panel, are approved by the RWUE-IF Sugar Program Coordinator and if funds remain in the scheme.
15. Applicant will not be eligible if they are receiving any other source of State or Federal government grant for this activity i.e. Reef Program.
APPLICATION PROCESS:
1. Have an irrigation assessment undertaken by the Rural Water Use Efficiency-IF extension officer.
2. Contact the CANEGROWERS Burdekin office, Burdekin Productivity Services (BPS) or RWUE-IF extension officer to obtain an information kit which includes an application form.
3. Cane grower to fill in this form, include detailed design information (including farm map, estimate of costs, details of works and checklist for growers completed by grower or RWUE-IF Extension Officer). The incentives application must be consistent with the recommendations made in the RWUE-IF extension officer’s irrigation assessment of your farm.
4. Return the application to the CANEGROWERS Burdekin office or Rural Water Use Efficiency-IF extension officer.
5. Application is reviewed by the RWUE-IF extension officer and then the assessment panel who makes recommendations for approval and sends to CANEGROWERS RWUE-IF State Coordinator. If changes are required to the application to make it eligible for the incentive growers will be notified.
6. If the application is successful, growers will be notified in writing by CANEGROWERS and if interim approval is received by the grower applicant, the grower can proceed with purchase.
7. Undertake the works as described in your application.
8. When receipt and tax invoice is received from the supplier, copies of these are to be forwarded by the grower with the letter of interim approval back to the CANEGROWERS office for payment of approved incentive rebate.
9. A visual inspection by the RWUE-IF extension officer or assessment panel representative may be required to confirm the works have been undertaken as planned.
10. Queensland CANEGROWERS will pay you the eligible incentives payment.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:
1. Should the funds for the scheme be exhausted before your approved application is processed your application will automatically be forwarded on to a wait list. There is no guarantee of payment to applicants on the wait list.
2. Receipt and tax invoice as evidence of payment to be provided prior to payment of rebate.
3. Applicants must sign the statutory declaration on the attached form.
4. Applicants must complete the Burdekin groundwater checklist for growers or have the RWUE-IF extension officer complete this checklist.
5. Appeals upon disapproval of an application may be referred to the Queensland Cane Growers Organisation Ltd.
6. If equipment is purchased before approval received there is no guarantee payment will be made.
7. Applicants must agree to take part in an on farm audit process to validate items covered in application are in use as intended.
8. Applicants must do an irrigation system assessment by the RWUE-IF extension officer to be eligible for the incentive
9. Records of irrigation volumes and times must be kept for future monitoring.
10. Applicants must agree to participate in any publicity associated with the RWUE-IF program.
11. Applicants are not receiving any other source of State or Federal government grants for this activity.

CHECKLIST FOR GROWERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>YES/NO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Does the application seek to minimise groundwater rise through irrigation improvements or other means?</td>
<td>□ No □ Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has the RWUE-IF extension officer undertaken an irrigation assessment of your farm?</td>
<td>□ No □ Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is your incentives application consistent with the recommendations made in the RWUE-IF extension officer’s irrigation assessment of your farm?</td>
<td>□ No □ Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you included copies of information on works to be undertaken in your application?</td>
<td>□ No □ Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Was the purchase made on or after 1 January 2014?</td>
<td>□ No □ Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you included copies of invoices or cost estimates?</td>
<td>□ No □ Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the name of the sub-area of the Burdekin Groundwater Management Area to which this application refers to?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the total cultivated area of all crops (hectares)?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GPO Box 1032  BRISBANE  QLD  4001   |   T:  3864 6444   |   F: 3864 6429
**FARM DETAILS (PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK LETTERS)**

| TODAY’S DATE: | NAME ON CANE SUPPLY CONTRACT: |
| CONTACT PERSON: | TRADING NAME OF FARM BUSINESS: |
| ABN: | AREA OF SUGAR CANE |
| FARM ADDRESS | FARM SIZE (ha) |
| POSTAL ADDRESS: | TELEPHONE: |
| STATE: | FAX: |
| | MOBILE: |
| | EMAIL: |

**FUNDING REQUEST**

| Total project cost (Excluding GST) | $ |
| Funding requested (Excluding GST) | $ |

**HAVE YOU INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR APPLICATION? (Please tick)**

- Quote or estimate of cost from the supplier of the irrigation system: [No] [Yes]
- Checklist completed by you or RWUE-IF Project Officer: [No] [Yes]

**DECLARATION**

I declare that the information in this form is true and correct. I have read the incentives scheme guidelines and understand and accept the terms and conditions of the incentives scheme.

PRINT FULL NAME CLEARLY

SIGNATURE

DATE

**APPROVED BY**

- **RWUE-IF Extension Officer**
  - SIGNATURE
  - DATE
- **Assessment panel**
  - SIGNATURE
  - DATE
- **RWUE-IF Sugar Program Coordinator**
  - SIGNATURE
  - DATE

**Please send applications to CANEGROWERS Burdekin.**

**PRIVACY CLAUSE**

We use the information you provide about yourself to complete customer transactions and to assist us in contacting you in the future. We do not share this information with outside parties except to the extent necessary to complete that customer transaction. We use the information you provide about someone else to complete customer transactions and to assist us in contacting them in the future. We do not share this information with outside parties except to the extent necessary to complete that customer transaction.
Irrigation change of practice details:

What changes do you plan to make on your farm?

How will these changes minimise deep drainage or contribute towards lowering groundwater levels in the BGMA?

Will the project contribute to any other irrigation related issues in the region?

How can the success of this project be monitored to demonstrate ongoing irrigation improvements?