

FIRE FLOW POLICY

Resolution # 110724

Updated 06/12/2025

Whereas: On November 15, 2008 Lincoln County Rural Water System, Inc. (LCRWS) established a Fire Flow policy.

Whereas: The Fire Flow Policy has been updated periodically to include updated language and a Fire Flow Area recovery formula.

Whereas: The Board of Directors (the board) of (LCRWS) reserve the right to continue to update the Fire Flow Policy including the Fire Flow Recovery costs as needed as determined by the board.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

It is the policy of LCRWS to provide fire flows for fire protection purposes from its water system within the area designated as shown on "Exhibit A" and may be modified or added to by subsequent action. Each area will be referred to as the "Fire Flow Protection Area".

Definition of Fire Flow: For the purpose of this policy, "Fire Flow" will be defined as a rate of 500 gallons per minute (gpm) or more within the Fire Flow Protection area with a minimum residual pressure of 20 pounds per square inch (psi) at all locations within the distribution system.

Developer Built Water Distribution Facilities: Developers of commercial developments, or multi-lot housing developments that will be supplied water by LCRWS within the Fire Protection Area, constructed after the adoption date of this policy, will comply with the following requirements.

1. The design and construction of the distribution system facilities will follow the requirements of local, State, and Federal requirements that regulate such work.
2. The design and construction of the water distribution system facilities will comply with the most recent version of the City of Sioux Falls design standards (Section 300) developments and LCRWS "Supplement to the City of Sioux Falls Supplement Standard Specifications, Section 300-Water Main Construction.
3. The Plans and Specifications for the water distribution facilities must be prepared, signed, and sealed by a qualified Engineer certified in the State of South Dakota and will be approved, prior to construction, by LCRWS, its Engineer, and the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
4. The location of the water main may be located under the hard surfaced portion of the street or roadway within a development. Water distribution mains or LCRWS owned service lines outside of right of ways must have easements recorded with the County Register of Deeds office.
5. Prior to beginning of design work, the Developer shall contact LCRWS to discuss the project and verify the design and construction requirements to be met.

6. When a developer requests a connection to LCRWS to a proposed development that LCRWS cannot serve within the timelines demanded by the developer.
 - A. LCRWS may work with the developer on options to serve the development to include;
 1. Delaying the development to a timeline more acceptable to LCRWS, or
 2. Working with the developer on an agreement where the developer will assume all costs for construction of the line extension to LCRWS specifications .
 - a. When additional connections are made on the line extension LCRWS would reimburse to the developer a portion using a formula agreed upon by the developer and LCRWS.
7. Prior to connection to the LCRWS water system, the developer and LCRWS shall have an agreement (contract) signed by the developer and the President of the board of LCRWS.
 - A. The agreement shall include a payment plan for the recovery costs as agreed upon between the developer (landowner) and LCRWS. The agreement (contract) must be signed and dated by the developer and LCRWS prior to connecting the development distribution system to LCRWS.

Examples of recovery payment plans are:

1. On developments up to and including 25 acres, one recovery payment is required.
 2. On developments more than 25 acres to 78 acres, a maximum of two payments would be required.
 3. On developments over 78 acres to 120 acres, a maximum of three payments would be required.
 4. On developments more than 120 acres, a payment plan longer than 3 years may be negotiated with LCRWS.
 5. The total amount paid will equal the total due to LCRWS as invoiced by LCRWS as determined by the contract payment plan.
 6. If repayment plans take longer than 12 months to make full payment to LCRWS, then LCRWS reserves the right to recalculate the amount due to the most recent Fire Flow Recovery formula. The recovery formula will include large diameter mainlines, water storage, and interest paid by LCRWS on debt incurred by LCRWS for Fire Flow Infrastructure.
 7. LCRWS will send email or written notice to all developers that have signed contracts with LCRWS 60 days prior to any Fire Flow Recovery Formula change. The notice will be sent to the last address on file at the LCRWS system headquarters.
8. If a developer subdivides a development after an agreement has been made with LCRWS.
 - A. The total amount due to LCRWS for the Fire Flow Recovery costs of the original development as detailed in the agreement will be due to LCRWS upon sale of the subdivided acres.