

## POLICY

### Assigning Production Allocation for Greenhouse Crops

Consistent with PART XVIII of the General Order, *Procedures For Assigning Production Allocations For Greenhouse crops*, applications for new Production Allocation may be made by licensed or new Producers at any time. The Commission processes qualified applications as they are received.

#### **A. APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

##### **1. Qualification of the Application**

**1.1.** All Producer applications for Production Allocation that are received by the BCVMC staff are qualified for further processing. An application is qualified upon satisfaction that:

- a) The application form is complete,
- b) The Producer provides information on:
  - farm background,
  - why the expansion is important to the business,
  - the resulting outcomes from the expansion.
- c) The application is attached to a marketing plan.
- d) Evidence is provided on market / customer support for the expansion.

##### **2. Industry Consultation**

**2.1.** Designated Greenhouse Vegetable Agencies and the Greenhouse Advisory Group are made aware of the request and provided with the following information.

- a) The total Production Allocation requested by crop year broken down by category.
- b) An analysis on total industry Production Allocation granted and under application.
- c) Crop type: ORGANIC or CONVENTIONAL.
- d) Region where the crop will be produced.
- e) Applicant classification – NEW or EXISTING Producer.
- f) Sponsoring Agency, or if classified as a Producer-Shipper, or exempt.
- g) Confirmation on a business and marketing plan being filed with the application.

**2.2. FIVE DAY RULE:** The designated Greenhouse Vegetable Agencies and Greenhouse Advisory Group are provided a minimum of five business days to respond to the notice and register an objection with the BCVMC staff. The registered objection is to state the reasons and be submitted in writing by e-mail.

**2.3.** When a Designated Agency or the Greenhouse Advisory Group does not provide a response by the response deadline the BCVMC staff considers the NIL response as consent.

- 2.4. The BCVMC staff notifies the designated greenhouse Agencies and the Greenhouse Advisory Groups on the completion of the 'FIVE DAY RULE' and if an objection was registered, and therefore prompting further consultation. If no objections are registered with the BCVMC staff, the notification informs that the request is to be forwarded to the Commission for review.
- 2.5. All submissions received through the 'Five Day Rule' will be shared with the applicant, the applicant's Agency, and each Agency registering an objection.
- 2.6. When an objection is received, the application will be placed on hold. An informal meeting will be held between the Commission General Manager, the applicant, the applicant's Agency, and each Agency registering an objection. The meeting's purpose is to resolve matters that are identified in the registered objection(s).

### 3. Commission Approval Process

- 3.1. The Commission makes the final decision on an application for Production Allocation.
- 3.2. Details on the applicant, the review process completed to date, information circulated to the designated greenhouse Agencies and the Greenhouse Advisory Group, any submissions received through the 'Five Day Rule', meeting outcomes, and any unresolved matters with the application will be shared with the Commission.
- 3.3. The course of action to complete the application review process is to be determined by the Commission. The Commission may choose to strike a panel of appointed Commissioners that will continue with the review and be tasked with making a final decision on the application. Conflict of interest policy will guide appointments to the Commission panel.
- 3.4. If the Commission determines that a hearing is to be held as part of the review process, a decision on the application for new greenhouse vegetable Production Allocation will be made upon its completion.

### B. **CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION:**

1. Business plans and marketing plans, and any evidence that is provided in support of an application will remain confidential to Commission staff and the Commission Chair.
2. Commission panel members appointed to review the application will only receive confidential documents that are prior approved by the applicant for distribution to the panel.