



# Extension Fee Assistance for Homes and Farms

## Overview

We provide limited financial assistance toward the cost of connecting customers or farm irrigation service to our electrical distribution system where infrastructure does not currently exist.

The Uneconomic Extension Assistance (UEA) fund, which draws from a maximum annual budget, covers new overhead electric service extensions that require a transformer and more than one span of line along a maintained road with public access.

## Who is Eligible?

Through the UEA fund, we provide financial assistance toward construction costs of an overhead electric service for a principal residence, a principal residence on a productive farm, farm irrigation.

Funding may also be available for a premise that will serve as a benefit or for the enjoyment to the community that is more than 1,200 m away from our electrical distribution system. Some examples that would provide a benefit to a community may include a community center, a water treatment facility, or a band office on First Nations Land.

Funding only applies to the portion of the line built along a public, maintained road where infrastructure (power lines, poles and transformers) does not currently exist. Except for farm irrigation, funding is restricted to one allowance per parcel of land. For example, a strata development would only receive one allowance.

## Exclusions and Other Charges

UEA funding is not available for subdivisions, recreational and seasonal properties, commercial enterprises, extensions on private or unmaintained roads, submarine cables, underground extensions, and extensions on private property. Customers who receive UEA funding will not be eligible for future refunds should additional customers connect to this extension.

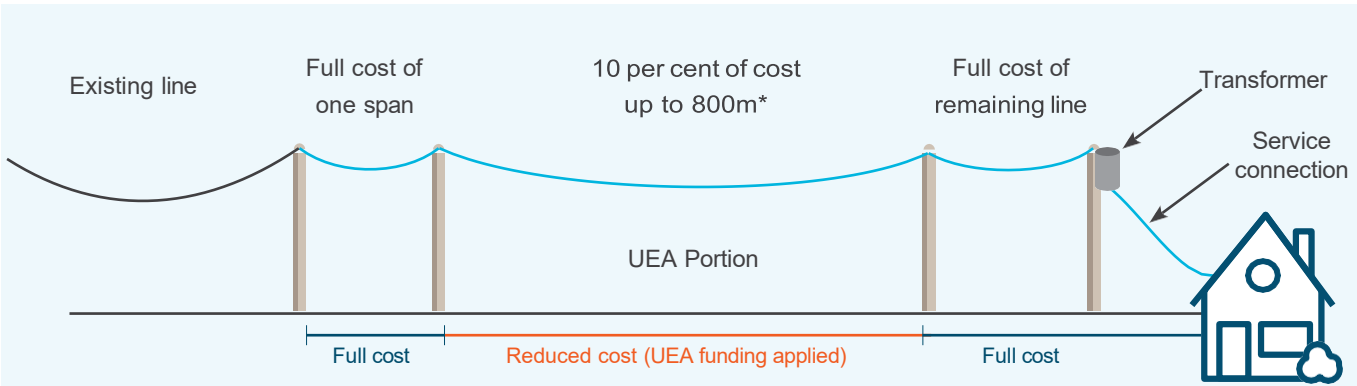
Charges from other utilities (telephone, gas, cable, etc.) are not included in this program and each utility must be contacted separately to determine costing and servicing options. Any costs involved with applications for government approvals, rights-of-way and/or easements, vegetation clearing, or any other work required on private property is also not included in this program.

# Funding Breakdown

We'll cover a portion of the full extension cost, based on eligibility criteria. You will be responsible for all additional costs.

Heading	Customer Contribution	BC Hydro UEA Contribution
<b>Principal Residence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> pole and span of overhead line from existing pole line</li> <li>10% of costs for up to 800m of line</li> <li>Transformer(s) - Single Phase or Three Phase</li> <li>Balance of Extension costs</li> <li>Service Connection Charges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% of costs for the first 800m of line on public property beyond the first pole</li> </ul>
<b>Principal Residence on a Farm</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> pole and span of overhead line from existing pole line</li> <li>10% of costs for up to 1200m of line</li> <li>Transformer(s) - Single Phase or Three Phase</li> <li>Balance of Extension costs</li> <li>Service Connection Charges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% of costs for the first 1200m of line on public property beyond the first pole</li> </ul>
<b>Productive Farm Irrigation Loads</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Full Construction Cost of the Extension less the UEA Contribution determined by BC Hydro</li> <li>Service Connection Charges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 6 times the estimated annual revenue for a farm irrigation load</li> </ul>
<b>Premise for the Benefit of a Community</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1<sup>st</sup> pole and span of overhead line from existing pole line</li> <li>10% of costs for up to 1200m of line</li> <li>Transformer(s) - Single Phase or Three Phase</li> <li>Balance of Extension costs</li> <li>Service Connection Charges</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% of costs for the first 1200m of line on public property beyond the first pole</li> </ul>

## Funding Breakdown



**How it works: funding example (costs shown are for illustrative purposes only):**

You live in a principal residence and want to connect to BC Hydro to receive an electric service. The nearest line is 1.0 km away and an extension must be built along the road to the property.

If you qualify for funding, here is the breakdown of costs to you:

- \$7,500: Full cost for the first span of line (approx. 75 meters) and one pole
  - \$3,000: Full cost of one transformer
  - \$8,000: 10% of the cost of the next 800 meters of line and poles (\$80,000 without UEA funding)
  - \$838: Service connection fee
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- \$19,838: Your Cost (\$99,838 without funding)

*\*This distance varies to 1200m if the residence is on a farm or if this is for the benefit of the community*

## Project Scheduling Considerations

Once UEA funding is approved, all payments and applicable permits for the construction of the line must be completed within twelve (12) months or the project may be cancelled. If cancelled, the customer will need to reapply as the funding for UEA gets approved on an annual basis.

Construction of a UEA extension will begin once we receive full payment, the construction of the new home is underway (i.e., structure framed), and all other site-specific requirements are completed. These requirements may include any property rights to be acquired, vegetation clearing, and confirmation of Telus involvement.

## How to Apply

Contact us at 1 877 520 1355 or visit [Electrical service connections \(bchydro.com\)](https://www.bchydro.com/electrical-service-connections) to complete a new service connection application.

For regulatory information about the Uneconomic Extension Assistance Fund, visit [Electric Tariff](#), Section 8.8.