



BC Farm Industry Review Board

February 16, 2021

File: 44200-60\VEG

DELIVERED BY EMAIL

Andre Solymosi
General Manager
BC Vegetable Marketing Commission

Dear Mr. Solymosi,

VEGETABLE REVIEW: CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM, CODE OF CONDUCT AND AGENCY DATA TIMELINE

As part of its December 22, 2021 Vegetable Review decision, the BC Farm Industry Review Board (BCFIRB) issued the following directions to the BC Vegetable Marketing Commission (Commission):

7. The Commission is to:
 - a. Immediately review its member conflict of interest disclosure form to ensure it includes pertinent questions (including those related to pecuniary interests, agency ownership and affiliation and association positions).
 - b. Submit a copy of the Commission's conflict of interest disclosure form to BCFIRB, which will have effect for the 2021-22 production year, within 30 days of receipt of this decision. [emphasis added]
 - c. Immediately review its Code of Conduct to ensure the Code of Conduct provides sufficient guidance on conflict of interest considerations, how to manage and enforce them, and that it is understood by Commission members.
 - d. Submit a copy of the Commission's Code of Conduct to BCFIRB, which will have effect for the 2021-22 production year, within 30 days of receipt of this decision. [emphasis added]

12. The Commission is to:
 - a. Make orders as necessary to extend the type of reporting requirements in the November 2019 Interim Order to include greenhouse agencies as appropriate to the sector;
 - b. Make an order, which at a minimum, requires agencies to submit a business or marketing plan, or particular elements of a marketing plan, within or by a specified time.
 - i. The draft amending order is to be submitted to BCFIRB for review prior to being brought into force;

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- c. Make an order, which at a minimum, requires agencies to submit pool settlement statistics for all regulated vegetable crops, within or by a specified time;
 - i. The draft amending order is to be submitted to BCFIRB for review prior to being brought into force.
- d. Identify any outstanding information submission and timeline requirement needs and make orders as necessary to support the practical goal of agency accountability within the proper exercise of legislated authority.
 - i. Any draft amending orders are to be submitted to BCFIRB for review prior to being brought into force.
- e. Provide BCFIRB a timeline for completing the directions in paragraphs a. through d. inclusive within 30 day of this decision. [emphasis added]

On behalf of BCFIRB, I acknowledge receipt of the following documents from the Commission in fulfillment of the above directions. The majority of documents were received within 30 days of the decision. One outstanding document was provided shortly thereafter. BCFIRB accepts the delay on the basis of the General Manager being seriously ill.

1. Conflict of Interest Rules.
2. Updated Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement form.
3. Updated Code of Conduct.
4. Workplan and timeline for order amendments related to provision of agency information to the Commission.

Although there is no prior approval requirement associated with these documents, BCFIRB may choose to provide comments to the Commission on some or all of these documents after BCFIRB has reviewed them. Accordingly, while the Commission may wish to proceed to finalize these documents, please be aware that BCFIRB may want the Commission to consider further amendments or input before they are finalized. BCFIRB will have a better sense of this shortly and will provide further correspondence whether it has input or not. BCFIRB looks forward to continuing to work with the Vegetable Commission in implementing the Vegetable Review directions.

Regards,



Kirsten Pedersen
Executive Director

cc: BCFIRB web site