



Aug 13, 2025

Dear Task Force Members:

Thank you for your thoughtful and timely recommendations on agricultural water security. Water is foundational to the future of BC's food system, and we need practical, forward-looking solutions to ensure that farmers, ranchers and food processors have the water they need to thrive. The clarity and consensus you have brought to this complex challenge is striking and admirable.

I was recently briefed on your deliberations, and our government is committed to working with you to bring to life the goals of your recommendations. In particular, I want to acknowledge the urgency you raised around streamlining groundwater licensing, and I agree with your assertion that there needs to be a paradigm shift in how water is valued and managed. The Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship is actively working on solutions and has been asked to prioritize this work. In turn, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and important industry associations such as the BC Agriculture Council will be engaged regularly to help ensure that agriculture has a seat at the table for government actions related to water and food security.

I hope we can count on your continued advocacy within the agriculture and food sector as we advance solutions to water security in British Columbia. Thank you again for your contributions to this critical file. I look forward to receiving further recommendations as the Task Force continues deliberating this year, and I hope to meet again to hear about your progress once additional recommendations have been submitted to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Eby', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.

David Eby, KC
Premier

cc: Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture and Food
Honourable Randene Neill, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship
Michelle Koski, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Lori Halls, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship