



# The Waterfront

## EID Makes Preparations for PG&E Power Outages



EID personnel, in preparation for potential power outages this year, continue to work closely with PG&E to prepare for power outages under their expanded Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) program.

EID's water, wastewater, recycled water, and hydroelectric systems, as well as its recreation operations rely upon uninterrupted electrical power through approximately 170 separate electrical service connections from PG&E in order to ensure safe and reliable operations. Most of these connections directly supply the electricity for the drinking water and wastewater treatment, distribution, pumping, and hydropower generation facilities critical to the 24/7 operational needs for these facilities.

In 2018, PG&E rolled out its Community Wildfire Safety Program (CWSP), which included planned outages under the PSPS program. In spring of 2019, PG&E announced

that it would significantly increase the program in response to increasing fire hazards across its service area.

The EID Board of Directors, recognizing the critical need to ensure uninterrupted power and increasing risk to maintaining water and wastewater service under PG&E's PSPS program, unanimously approved over \$800,000 in the past year alone for the purchase and installation of a number of back up electrical generators at critical sites. These recent acquisitions are in addition to dozens of generators EID has previously invested in and deployed at key locations to maintain water and wastewater services to its more than 110,000 customers.

*see PREPARATIONS, page 3*

## What's Happening at the El Dorado Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant?

EID is always looking for opportunities to improve efficiency, reduce operating costs, and provide reliable services to its customers. The following three examples highlight EID's ongoing efforts to improve wastewater collection and treatment services at the El Dorado Hills Wastewater Treatment Plant (EDHWWTP).

The plant site, located off of Latrobe Road in El Dorado Hills, provides wastewater treatment to over 12,000 services in the El Dorado Hills area. The plant was constructed in 1961 and over the years EID has made infrastructure improvements to meet growing demands and produce recycled water for many homes and commercial areas throughout El Dorado Hills—all the while ensuring compliance with strict federal and state regulatory requirements.

Three current and upcoming improvement projects at the EDHWWTP include:

- Installation of improved odor control facilities to help reduce odors from the site;
- Proposed expansion of the existing solar field array to reduce energy costs associated with wastewater treatment;
- Proposed relocation of EID's wastewater collections operations facilities from Bass Lake to EDHWWTP, which will improve EID's operational efficiency and help support development of a new regional park in El Dorado Hills.



### Odor Control

The EDHWWTP Odor Control project will replace two deteriorating odor control devices adjacent to the large storage tanks along the north side of the facility and install additional air ducting at the headworks to capture odors associated with sewage as it enters the facility. Work to replace the existing devices will commence in a systematic fashion as to continually provide odor control during construction.

This project will commence in June 2019 and continue for approximately 9 – 10 months with operations start-up planned for early spring 2020.

Contact Liz Carrington, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer at [lcarrington@eid.org](mailto:lcarrington@eid.org) or 530-642-4077 for more information on the odor control project.

*see EDHWWTP, page 4*



## Message from the General Manager

### Safety First and a Roadmap to a Resilient, Sustainable EID

Jim Abercrombie

The work of El Dorado Irrigation District is diverse and spans a range of operations, from water and wastewater treatment, construction and engineering, to administrative, financial, information technology, and a variety of other professionals.

Treating and delivering drinking water to high regulatory standards, collecting and safely treating wastewater so that it can be reused in our recycled water system or safely reintroduced into local waterways, running a hydroelectric system as well as recreation

services that are some of the most popular in the foothills—all of this work relies on infrastructure that is in good working order and a highly trained workforce to get it done.

I am proud of the women and men who work daily to provide our customers with the best service possible. From operators who run the water and wastewater treatment plants and water delivery and wastewater collection systems to construction and maintenance crews who replace and repair pipes and other vital infrastructure our customers rely on—at all hours of the day or night.

From office staff who answer customer billing and service-related questions to the engineers who are designing and overseeing construction projects and work closely with environmental analysts who keep the district in compliance with a multitude of state and federal regulations. We have financial specialists who are keeping the books and conducting long-term financial planning to make our ratepayers' dollars go as far as possible. And information technology specialists construct and manage sophisticated electronic systems that help our complicated interconnected systems hum along.

There are many more individuals who work daily to provide the services our customers expect and rely on. Each comes to work with safety in the forefront of their minds. It's vital for safety to be paramount in sometimes-hazardous work environments and when working on infrastructure that could affect customer lives and property.

In fact, earlier in June, EID received a positive assessment from the Association of California Water Agencies—Joint Powers Insurance Authority regarding the district's injury and illness prevention program. It reaffirmed EID's commitment to both public and individual safety.

The representatives from ACWA-JPIA noted the strength of EID's existing program this affirmation is something we at EID take great pride in. One hundred percent safety is one of our guiding principles and something we will always prioritize.

#### Cost-of-Services Update

In the coming weeks and months our customers will hear more about an update to the cost-of-services study we undertook nearly ten years ago and updated in 2016.

An update to that earlier document is necessary to evaluate the changes that have occurred over the intervening years and see how those changes affect the financial sustainability of the services we offer. New service accounts have been added in that time and large projects are planned in our capital improvement plan that will be necessary to ensure the resilience, safety, and reliability of our system.

Sometimes these projects are required due to regulatory requirements, like the costly Forebay Dam modification project. Often the projects are due to sections of our vital infrastructure reaching the end of their useful lives. Projects like the sections of flumes that must be rehabilitated or replaced are vital links in our interconnected water conveyance system. They are also costly to repair and replace: perched on hillsides along Highway 50, the sections require careful engineering to achieve repairs.

All of these things are part of our long term planning. We look closely at revenue requirements to repair and replace these vital infrastructure elements, and an updated cost-of-services study will help us design a predictable roadmap to get there—with updated information, the roadmap will be clear and understandable to our customers and community.



**TREATING AND DELIVERING DRINKING WATER TO HIGH REGULATORY STANDARDS, COLLECTING AND SAFELY TREATING WASTEWATER SO THAT IT CAN BE REUSED IN OUR RECYCLED WATER SYSTEM OR SAFELY REINTRODUCED INTO LOCAL WATERWAYS—ALL OF THIS WORK RELIES ON INFRASTRUCTURE THAT IS IN GOOD WORKING ORDER AND A HIGHLY TRAINED WORKFORCE TO GET IT DONE.**

## ► PREPARATIONS, *continued from page 1*

For long term critical needs, District staff is also working with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to obtain more than \$1.4 million in grants through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program to acquire additional generators and increase the resiliency of our critical infrastructure.

### Preparation for Extended Outages

While EID's backup power resiliency has increased in response to PG&E's expanded PSPS program, EID encourages everyone to prepare for possible multi-day outages.

- Have an emergency supply of drinking water available.
- During a power outage, minimize water usage to only critical health and safety needs to help EID maintain service to its customers.
- Plan for medical needs such as medications that may require refrigeration or devices that need power.
- Identify backup charging methods for phones and keep hard copies of emergency numbers.
- Build or restock your emergency kit with flashlights, fresh batteries, first aid supplies, and cash.
- Sign up for alerts about PSPS events by going to <https://PrepareForPowerdown.com>.
- Subscribe to other emergency management notifications by going to [https://www.edcgov.us/Government/PublicHealth/PublicHealthPreparedness/Pages/be\\_informed.aspx](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/PublicHealth/PublicHealthPreparedness/Pages/be_informed.aspx).
- Subscribe to updates on the EID website under eNews Sign Up, "like" our Facebook page @EIDoradoIrrigationDistrict, and ensure your contact information on file with us is up to date.

EID is committed to providing the continued 24/7 service our customers rely on throughout this period. However, since the extent of PG&E's outages will not be fully known until the day of the event in response to localized weather conditions, it is not possible to know in advance where potential interruptions to water and wastewater services could occur. As such, we want all customers to be prepared to safely handle any emergency and respond to our calls for water conservation.

EID will notify customers immediately prior to and during PSPS events when we obtain information from PG&E regarding outage locations and are able to evaluate how such outages are anticipated to impact our ability to maintain drinking water and wastewater treatments services.

To help ensure we can maintain communication on this important public safety matter we ask customers to ensure that they have accurate contact details on file with us. You may email our customer service group at [billing@eid.org](mailto:billing@eid.org), call them at 530-642-4000, or visit our website at [www.eid.org/UpdateMyAccount](http://www.eid.org/UpdateMyAccount) to update your information.



### Complimentary Landscape Surveys

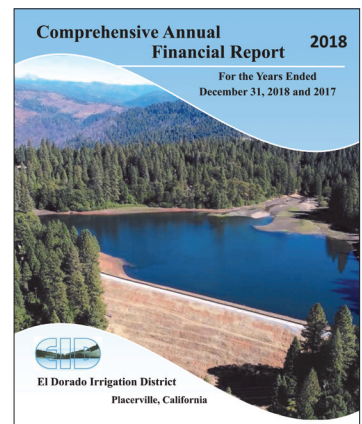
If you live in a home with an average-sized lawn, you are likely using at least half of your water outdoors. Many people give their lawns too much water in normal years—not only is that wasteful, but it can also damage your lawn and leave it more susceptible to pests and disease. You can receive a complimentary landscape survey to learn more about irrigation efficiency and receive recommendations for system improvements. Leak detection assistance can also be performed using the water meter to help determine if you have an undetected leak. Indoor efficiency upgrades can also be provided for customer installation during your landscape survey. Call 530-642-4000 to schedule an appointment.

### Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Available

During its June 24 meeting, EID board members received positive financial news as they reviewed and filed the 2018 annual audit. The auditors issued an unqualified opinion that the financial statements fairly present the financial position of EID as of December 31, 2018, and that no deficiencies in internal controls, practices, or procedures were detected.

"An unqualified opinion is the highest level of assurance that an auditor can provide," said EID Finance Manager Tony Pasquarello.

The audit report is available to read in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR is a thorough and detailed look at EID's finances and includes a financial overview, discussion of the local economy, and an organization chart of the District, as well as the independent auditor's report, management's discussion and analysis, and audited basic financial statements and other statistical information. Go to [www.eid.org/Finances](http://www.eid.org/Finances) to find and read the report.



## Solar Field Expansion

The second project includes installation of additional solar arrays adjacent to those installed in 2006. The new solar arrays and associated electrical equipment (inverters, transformers, switchgear, system disconnects, and service meters) would occupy a roughly 6.5 acre portion of the WWTP located on the eastern portion of the facility on the north and south sides of the existing solar array. The existing solar array will continue to offset approximately 50% of the energy used at the WWTP headworks and aeration basin facilities. The new solar arrays will be used to offset approximately 70% of the power consumed at the WWTP disinfection facility, which uses ultraviolet lamps to disinfect reclaimed water prior to reuse.

On June 24, 2019, the EID Board adopted the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document for this project. The project construction phase is expected to begin in summer 2019 and last approximately 7 to 9 months, with completion and operations start-up planned to occur in 2020.

Contact Jon Money, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer at [jmoney@eid.org](mailto:jmoney@eid.org) or 530-642-4090 regarding this solar project.

## Wastewater Collections Relocation

The third project will relocate the wastewater collections operation and maintenance facility from its current location adjacent to Bass Lake to the EDHWWTP where the wastewater operations can be centralized. The El Dorado Hills Community Services District (CSD) has entered into an agreement to purchase the Bass Lake property and has issued proposed plans for a regional park that will greatly enhance the recreational experience for the community.

EID is excited to be a partner in helping facilitate this regional park. The sale of the Bass Lake property to the El Dorado Hills CSD will allow EID to use the sale proceeds to help fund the needed changes at the EDHWWTP. The District will benefit from the relocation by consolidation of wastewater staff and increasing opportunities for operational efficiency to meet the long-term needs of our customers in the most cost efficient way possible.

The proposed project includes an interior remodel and expansion of an existing building, construction of equipment buildings/garages, resurfacing of areas for on-site vehicle circulation and parking, and operations support materials and equipment staging areas. Approximately 20 employees will be relocated to the site as a result of the project. The proposed project would require approval of a conditional use permit by El Dorado County to allow for the relocation of operations from the Bass Lake Facility to the EDHWWTP property. The County will be serving as the lead agency under the CEQA.


Contact Michael Baron, Environmental Review Analyst at [mbaron@eid.org](mailto:mbaron@eid.org) or 530-642-4188 for additional information regarding the Wastewater Collections Relocation Project.



## 2019 REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
14	11	11	8	13	10	—	12	9	15 (T)	12 (T)	9
28	25	25*	22	28* (T)	24	22	26	23*	28	—	—

Board meetings generally occur on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Dates marked (T) are scheduled on Tuesdays. Dates with asterisk are tentative.

 In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and California law, it is the policy of the El Dorado Irrigation District to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require any other accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator at the number or address below at least 72 hours prior to the meeting or when you desire to receive services. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. The District ADA Coordinator can be reached by phone at (530) 642-4013 or e-mail at [adacoordinator@eid.org](mailto:adacoordinator@eid.org).