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*Director*



**Vince Lucchesi, PE**  
*General Manager*

**Toni Russell**  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

August 31, 2018

Dear Water User,

As the Patterson Irrigation District (PID or District) demands decrease and operations roll into the fall, growers need to be informed regarding the upcoming irrigation operations plans for this fall and winter. As noted in previous letters, the finalization of the construction of the Schedule A improvements of the Main Canal Rehabilitation Project are impending. During the irrigation season, the improvements constructed were those that were not intended to disrupt irrigation water deliveries with the remaining improvements dedicated to the winter when deliveries typically cease. The plan being, is that the District needs to shut down its deliveries this winter to accommodate the execution and construction of the new connections to the laterals and turnouts on the second and third lifts of the Main Canal.

Regarding fall operations, the District is suspending its "Season Fringe Policy" in anticipation of the winter shut down and to provide some flexibility for water deliveries in the fall. The suspension does come with a caveat that for the sake of distribution efficiency, growers may be asked to wait for a few days to irrigate to see if there are more water orders that come in. This is intended to help bunch orders up, but also to not delay growers for an extended period. Growers will not be told that we are not running water on the weekends or that they need to be off by Saturday. In the cases that some growers absolutely cannot hold off on irrigation, DSO's will make water available and this will be determined on a case-by-case basis. It's anticipated that this bunching may start around the beginning of October and run through November 15, the start of the winter shut down.

Regarding winter operations, PID is looking to have a District-wide winter time shut down for the period of November 15, 2018 through March 1, 2019. This shut down period was evaluated and developed to minimize any impacts to growers on any late season irrigation. Further, this winter period is when historical deliveries are almost non-existent for the District. Neighboring Districts have similar shut down periods for maintenance efforts. The District is asking its water users to note this shut down period and make plans appropriately. The goal of this letter is to provide as much as an advance notice to PID growers as possible, the winter time shut down has been discussed in the newsletter that was sent out in February, posted on PID's website, presented at the Grower Meeting on February 28, mailed with the May bills in the beginning of June, and separate mailers at the beginning of July and August. The District will continue to provide notice to its growers and water users until the shutdown.

Please note, the District is developing a contingency plan for winter deliveries if this winter turns dry similar to that of 2017-18, where the District experienced a dry December and February. This contingency will only be enacted if the winter begins to look like a dry winter and diminished rainfall may impact crops.

Thank you for your consideration and accommodation regarding this notice.

  
Vince Lucchesi, PE  
General Manager  
Patterson Irrigation District