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MID ELECTRIC SERVICES UPDATE

SPRING 2009

Notes from the General Manager

By Dan W. Pope

The Word on the Street is that Energy Efficiency Will Pave the Way for Our Economic Future

From President Obama to the common man on the street, the word is the development of energy-efficient technologies



and renewable energy generation is expected to help drive America's economic future. The new administration in Washington has committed to strategically investing 150 billion dollars over ten years to promote the development of commercial-scale renewable energy, energy efficiency in buildings, cleaner coal technologies and the next generation of biofuels and fuel infrastructure. The goal is also to develop hybrid electric vehicles that act as batteries during periods of high electric demand, build new transmission lines to bring renewable energy from remote areas, and to begin the transition to a new SMART digital electricity grid.

It is widely anticipated that the administration's plan will also invest in America's highly skilled manufacturing workforce and manufacturing centers to ensure that American workers have the skills and tools they need to pioneer the green technologies that will be in high demand throughout the world. There are plans underway at our Community Colleges to provide this skilled workforce. It is projected that this investment will help

the private sector create over 5 million new green jobs in America.

This plan and its subsequent goals are extremely ambitious and can only be successful through a committed and sustained effort to diversify our energy resources and to optimize our use of energy through the implementation of energy efficiency in our homes, buildings, workplaces, institutions and industries.

"At MID Electric Services we are continuing to support this necessary evolution toward greater energy independence and to secure a better economic future for the country and for our community."

In 2004 the District adopted a Renewable Resource Plan and Program. The program was implemented in response to Senate Bill 1078, the Renewable Portfolio Standards Bill which became law in 2003. More recent legislation requires the Investor Owned Utilities to have 20% renewable power by 2010 and 33% by 2020. There is legislation being crafted right now that would have similar requirements for Public Owned Utilities. Initially, MID was required to establish its own program and goals. MID's Renewable Resource Plan started with a renewable resource objective of 5% renewable resources to total electrical load in 2004 and progress toward an ambitious goal of

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The Electric Services Construction Department Team

The MID Electric Services construction department is comprised of local personnel of various skill sets including a construction manager, facilities inspector, lineman foremen, apprentice linemen, meter technician and an administrative clerk.

Current projects the department is working on include the Applegate Ranch Commercial Center, the Atwater Gateway Commercial Center, two highway system relocation projects and extensive preventive maintenance service on MID's distribution system.

Ramiro Ceja, the department's manager, describes his department as having an en-

ergetic, positive, can-do attitude. He stated, "Our team is very customer service-oriented. They are proud of what they do. They fully understand the implications of good responsive service in the field because our customers are their friends and neighbors. The staff is very professional and proud of the electric distribution system they built."

It is our goal to remain the premier provider of customer service and electric service system reliability to our customers and to serve our community in ways that continue to make it a better place to live.

MID's Electric Service Construction Crew



From left to right:

Richard Leonardo, Apprentice Lineman, 12 yrs w/MID; **Van Rush**, Journeyman Lineman, 7 years; **Dave Haubrich**, Lineman Foreman, 7 years, **Shawn Reel**, Journeyman Lineman, 7 years; **Inder Johal**, Apprentice Lineman, 1 year; **Steve LaFollett**, Substation Technician, 3 years; **Brandon Devine**, Apprentice Lineman, 1 year; **Ramiro Ceja**, Line Construction Manager, 3 years; **Matt Acree**, Facilities Inspector, 4 years; **Shane Peck**, Apprentice Lineman, 5 years; **Glen Moss** – Meter/Relay Technician – 3 years

Please visit the MID Web site to find out more information regarding MID'S electrical service growth at www.mercedid.org.

Hughson Nut Installs Money-Saving Lighting Efficiency Project

Hughson Nut (Hughson) was established by a local trio of almond growers in 1985. Hughson became an MID electric services customer in 2002 when it purchased its Livingston facility. Hughson is a full-service almond supplier offering natural inshell, shelled, blanched and manufactured almonds.

Andy Fontana, Hughson's manager of maintenance, contacted MID electric services late in 2008 to conduct an energy efficiency audit of their facilities in Livingston. MID conducted an audit, and in its report to Hughson, recommended upgrades to their refrigeration and lighting systems. Upon review of the report findings, Hughson began to immediately develop and implement the lighting system efficiency recommendations from the MID audit report.

Andy Fontana assigned the development and management of the lighting project to Al Noeller, Hughson's staff electrician. Al began to pull the project together in November of 2008. He started developing the new lighting design plan by evaluating the existing lighting conditions and assessing Hughson's lighting needs. For instance, in areas that benefited from natural light, they used light sensors to keep the lights off when natural lighting levels were sufficient. In areas that only periodically needed light, they used motion sensors that only turned the

lights on when necessary. Outdoors, Al got even more creative. He replaced 250 watt lamps with 65 watt compact fluorescent lamps and was able to use the same fixtures with some simple but innovative rewiring.



Al stated that Martin Pohl, one of Hughson's owners, was the driving force behind the project. The lighting system efficiency upgrade was a prudent business investment. The project resulted in an annual savings to Hughson of \$33,291 with a simple payback of 1.7 years. The rebate contribution from MID's 2009 Commercial/Industrial Lighting Program was \$31,202.

Everyone is a winner with Hughson's proactive business approach to operational energy efficiency. Hughson wins, the community wins and the environment wins. For more information regarding MID's efficiency rebate programs, go to www.mercedid.org or call our office at 722-5761 ext. 119.



Go Green with MID

2009 Commercial/Industrial Public Benefit Rebate Programs for Energy Efficiency

MID Electric Services Public Benefit Programs have a new look and focus in 2009. By the design of the 2009 programs MID will aggressively focus on the industrial/commercial energy efficiency retrofit market. More aggressive penetration of the industrial/commercial market will deliver significant results to MID's annual program goals and deliver significant energy and dollar savings to this customer segment. MID will continue to offer residential customers new Energy Star appliance rebates and other residential energy efficiency rebate programs which have been very popular over the years.

MID financial rebate contributions for energy efficiency retrofit projects installed by industrial/commercial customers have been enhanced for 2009. Qualifying lighting projects will receive lucrative rebates for lighting equipment retrofits that can cover up to 60% of the cost of the proj-



ects. Qualified and installed mechanical equipment projects will receive lucrative rebates for refrigeration equipment, air conditioning equipment, chillers, motors, and pumps. The program provides rebates for variable frequency drives on motors and pumps. Rebates are also available for cooling load reduction measures including duct sealing, cool roofs, window film and programmable thermostats. These mechanical equipment rebates can also amount to up to 60% of the cost of the customers installed project.

MID's Solar Buy Down Program will be getting additional market exposure and will continue to be offered to residential and industrial/commercial market segments in 2009. As mandated by the State of California, MID's Solar Buy Down Program will be back for its second year of a ten year program cycle. The



installed solar project rebate for 2009 has been carried forward again this year at \$2.80 per watt with a cap of 3 kW or \$8,400 for residential installations and a cap of 25 kW or \$70,000 for industrial/commercial customers. Incentive funding for larger solar projects may be considered on a case by case basis.

Many local contractors this year have been formally trained in using and applying for MID's energy efficiency rebate programs. Participating contractors include:

Lighting:

Acro Electric, CED Merced, All Phase Electric, Best Electric, H&H Electric, and Tri Phase Electric

Mechanical Contractors:

Modern Air Mechanical, Champion Mechanical, Dom's Electrical Motors, Econo Air, Ace Air and Thorsen's HVAC

Solar Contractors:

R.T. Maher Construction, RBC Solar and Sunworks

2009 is going to be a very active year for MID's Public Benefit Programs. We encourage our customers to apply early and to take advantage of their 2.85% public benefit program contributions paid for in their energy rates. For more information regarding MID's 2009 Public Benefit Programs please call (209) 722-5761 ext. 119 or go to MID's website at www.mercedid.org and go green with MID.

New AGM David Carroll

Merced Irrigation District has announced David Carroll as new Assistant General Manager of Business Development and Electric Resources. Carroll has 29 years of experience with Pacific Gas & Electric Company, where he held various leadership positions throughout California, including Bakersfield, San Francisco, Merced, Los Banos and Fresno. Most recently, he served as a Senior Operating Specialist for Electric Reliability, where he provided leadership and guidance to enhance dependability and management of the company's UG asset programs, among other responsibilities. MID General Manager Dan Pope sees Carroll's background uniquely suited to his new position. "David's previous experience in the energy industry will undoubtedly help to take our business to the next level



as MID continues to provide the latest in energy technology to our customers district-wide."

New Hydroelectric Project Manager Hired

Starting October 2008, Randall Anthony started his career with Merced Irrigation District as the new Hydroelectric Project Manager replacing Dan Pope in that position. Anthony has over 25 years of experience in the power generation and distribution industry including 17 years of hydro-related construction, operations, and maintenance experience within the Big Creek System (upper San Joaquin River). A graduate of California State University, Fresno and a registered civil engineer, Anthony also has had experience associated with the construction of several major projects within the Southern California Edison (SCE) system including the Eastwood Power Plant near Shaver Lake and Mountainview Power Plant in Redlands, and more recently, held key leadership positions within the distribution system for SCE in the southern San Joaquin Valley based out of Tulare.



Notes from the General Manager

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15.5% renewable resources as a percentage of our total electrical load by 2014. Some of this renewable resource could come from our hydroelectric project.

Over a three-year period, MID has paid energy efficiency rebates to its residential customers resulting in over 1,361,138 kWh savings and 8,989,156 kWh savings for its commercial customers for a combined total savings of 11,889,036 kWh. To continue the trend of promoting energy efficiency in our service territory, our new 2009 public benefit programs include a diverse and extensive mix of energy efficiency rebates and solar installation incentives for all of our residential and commercial/industrial customers. Residential energy

efficiency incentives include rebates for the purchase of energy efficient clothes and dish washers, ceiling fans, whole house fans, air conditioners, refrigerators and we will even pick up your old refrigerator and pay you \$35 for recycling it under our refrigerator recycling program. Our commercial and industrial energy efficiency programs for 2009 include new easy-to-use rebate menus and applications for energy-saving lighting and mechanical equipment retrofits.

At MID we are deeply committed to work with our customers and in our community to facilitate and support today's new energy movement and the public good toward greater energy efficiency and independence.

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Return Service Requested

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Merced County**