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## **MID Responds to UC Merced Electrical Provider Selection**

*Merced, California.* "We are a little surprised by the University of California, Merced in not selecting the Merced Irrigation District's Electrical Services as the electrical provider for the developing campus. We are pleased that the campus project is moving forward because it is important to our community," said Garith W. Krause, MID's Assistant General Manager for Energy Resources. "We submitted what we felt was a very attractive and cost-effective proposal to provide reliable services for the University's electrical grid connection."

As the 25<sup>th</sup> largest utility service in California, the Merced Irrigation District provides electrical service to hundreds of customers in the region including industrial, commercial, wholesale and governmental facilities. More recently MID has become a key provider of electrical services in Eastern Merced County by contracting for over 2,500 new residential units. MID also sells electricity generated at its New Exchequer Hydro-electric power plant, under a long term contract expiring in 2014, to PG&E for its customers in Northern California.

"As the only local publicly-owned electric utility in Eastern Merced County, this project would have been a great fit for MID," said Ross Rogers, MID's General Manager. "Our core focus has been providing reliable electricity with outstanding customer service throughout the region – a concept that has been validated by our ability to attract many new, large customers. However, we understand the selection process was fair and that the final choice was obviously a tough decision for the committee. We wish to thank the UC selection committee for its consideration of MID."

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### **Background**

The Merced Irrigation District has been generating and selling electricity since 1927. It is the 25<sup>th</sup> largest utility in California. The District has built its distribution system and maintains its own transmission lines and substations. The District provides electrical services to hundreds of customers in Eastern Merced County including the Cities of Livingston, Atwater and Merced as well as Castle Airport and Aviation Development Center. A 34-mile transmission loop, completed in 1998, offers complete back-up capability to these customers, reducing the risk of prolonged outages. The District utilizes its own equipment and personnel in providing installation and maintenance services for its customers.