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TID Board approves electric rate increase

TURLOCK – At its regular meeting Tuesday, the Turlock Irrigation District Board of Directors voted unanimously to increase electric rates by 4 percent systemwide in 2012, 2013 and 2014.

While base rates will remain the same in 2012, the increase will be reflected in an Environmental Charge that will appear as a line item on customer bills, further informing customers that the increase is part of a multi-year rate increase strategy that is needed help cover the costs associated with meeting state renewable energy mandates.

Additionally, the Power Supply Adjustment (PSA) will change from the current \$0.01/kilowatt-hour charge to a \$0.005/kilowatt-hour credit. The PSA has been used since 2005 as a tool that takes into account variances in TID's power supply cost.

The average* TID electric customer can expect to see their bill rise about three dollars per month in 2012 based on this increase. The last TID general rate increase was in 2009, which was a 15 percent average systemwide.

The Board's adoption of the rate increase comes on the heels of numerous public forums and mailings discussing the topic of rates and their connection to renewable energy with customers throughout TID's electrical service area, most recently at the District's Nov. 22 Public Rate Hearing.

As part of the same agenda item on Tuesday, the Board also voted 5-0 to adopt staff's proposed 2012 Budget.

* *The average TID residential customer consumes 787 kilowatt-hours of energy per month.*

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About the Turlock Irrigation District (TID)

The Turlock Irrigation District, located in Turlock CA, is the first publicly owned Irrigation District and is one of only four today that provides irrigation water and power to residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural customers within its service area. TID has been in the retail electric business since 1923. TID provides safe, low-cost, reliable energy to a growing customer base that today exceeds 98,000 home, farm, business, industrial and municipal accounts. TID also serves 5,800 irrigation customers covering approximately 150,000 acres of farmland. For more information about TID visit www.tid.com.