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TID warns customers about new fraud scheme

TURLOCK –Turlock Irrigation District is receiving reports from customers who are being contacted by individuals claiming to represent TID. These callers state that the electric meter (or equipment) at the customer’s residence needs to be replaced or, it could “*cause their house to burn down,*” or “*their appliances to be damaged.*” The caller then attempts to schedule an appointment for someone to come out to the house and replace the meter. Some customers have also reported that the caller has asked for money up-front in order to do this.

Currently, these calls are being reported in Ceres but, other TID Service areas may be receiving them as well.

TID is concerned about these types of suspicious calls to our customers. TID is not sure of the true intentions of these callers. Typically, scammers ask for money, -but in this case, they are attempting to arrange a visit.

The Ceres Police Department is advising residents to call them at 209-538-5713 if anyone shows up at their residence to change out their meter.

However, it is important to note that TID occasionally sends TID employees to homes and businesses to replace or read meters, or perform other services. TID employees wear TID blue shirts and drive white vehicles with a blue TID logo on the side doors. All TID employees have company issued photo identification badges. TID Customer Service Representatives will know if an employee is supposed to be at a particular service address.

TID is recommending that its customers be suspicious of anyone calling them and representing themselves as a TID employee. If you have any doubts about the caller, or want to verify who is at your door, call TID Customer Service at (209) 883-8222.

Visit <http://www.tid.com/scams> for more information and tips on this topic.

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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 and follow @TurlockID on Twitter.