



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TID dedicates new, expanded power plant

Almond 2 Power Plant adds more than 170 megawatts to TID's generation portfolio

MODESTO – Among legislators, state officials and many of the people who made it possible, Almond 2 Power Plant, Turlock Irrigation District's new, natural gas-fired power plant capable of producing 174 megawatts of electricity, was dedicated at a small ceremony at the plant Wednesday morning.

Consisting of three generating units that use natural gas to produce electricity to TID's transmission system in a mere 10 minutes, Almond 2 Power Plant (A2PP), is expected to be fully operational this month. Construction began in March 2011 and was completed in March 2012. On-site testing has been in progress since early summer.

The plant integrates into TID's generation portfolio as a 'peaking' power plant, meaning its primary uses are to generate electricity quickly when TID's system demand spikes – such as hot summer days – or to generate when intermittent resources such as wind are not generating as expected. Because A2PP features rapid start turbine technology, it can generate electricity to TID's electrical system in only 10 minutes, which provides multiple operational advantages and flexibility for the District, including optimizing TID's other plants to operate at their peak efficiencies.

Coming in under budget, the total cost allocated for the project was \$200 million.

A2PP, located next to the site occupied by TID's existing Almond Power Plant, is also significant to TID and its customers for several other reasons:

- Emissions are low: natural gas is the cleanest commercially available fuel that results in the least amount of emissions per megawatt-hour of operation.
- A2PP's water needs, which are intended to be low, will be met by extracting water from the City of Ceres' Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- When it's economically advantageous, the plant can quickly come online and generate energy to be sold in the electricity market, or can meet emergency needs to improve reliability.
- The plant can help the District accommodate future customer growth and/or load growth.

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- Located next to an existing TID power plant by design, A2PP will efficiently utilize existing TID staff and infrastructure.
- Local control: TID owns and operates the facility, rather than relying on purchasing electricity from other generators.

Like other historic investments made by TID on behalf of its customers, A2PP returns a valuable resource to meet current and future energy needs in a timely, prudent and cost-effective manner with minimal environmental impact.

For more information about the benefits of Almond 2 Power Plant, an educational video is available online at www.tid.com/news-resources/videos.

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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](https://twitter.com/TurlockID) on Twitter.