



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TID takes first place again in national lineworkers rodeo**

TURLOCK – For the second year in a row, TID Linemen received first place overall in the journeyman category at the Annual Public Power Lineworkers Rodeo in Omaha, Nebraska on Saturday, March 27.

“This was the first time in its 10-year history, the rodeo saw a team win the cumulative prize for a second consecutive year. I am very proud of their hard work and determination” said Larry Weis, General Manager.

TID’s team, consisted of Mark Pickens, Dustin Krieger, Josh Klikna and alternate Aaron Baker. They were first in three of the events and placed in the fourth. The other teams in the top five were Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), Kissimmee Utility Authority, Memphis Light, Gas & Water, and Lincoln Electric System.

A total of 39 journeyman linemen teams competed in five events that showcased both individual achievement and teamwork as they changed out under-slung switches, lightning arrestors, and oil circuit reclosers, repaired a down primary line, and simulated the rescue of a hurt colleague suspended on a pole.

“The day was rainy, cold and windy, but the competition continued with wet grounds, poles, and equipment, not to mention temperatures that never rose above 40 degrees”, said Dennis Moon, Line Department Manager.

The journey teams consist of two climbers and a ground person and can include an optional alternate. A qualified journey lineworker has more than four years of experience in the electric utility trade.

The event was hosted by the American Public Power Association (APPA) and public utilities of all sizes participated including California utilities such as Sacramento Municipal District (SMUD), Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and Modesto Irrigation District (MID).

The awards honor lineworkers’ expertise and the events are judged based upon safe work practices, neatness, ability, equipment handling and timely event completion. All safety rules established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the APPA Safety Manual are observed during events.

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