



1231 Eleventh Street
P.O. Box 4060
Modesto, CA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 17, 2020

Modesto Irrigation District is committed to help stop the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

*MID Board declares emergency and authorizes actions to protect
customers, community and employees*

Modesto Irrigation District (MID) values the health and safety of our customers, community and employees. During these unprecedented times where our community, state and nation come together to combat Coronavirus (COVID-19), MID has also made a commitment to help stop the spread. At an emergency Board meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020, MID's Board of Directors unanimously voted to declare an emergency in response to COVID-19.

The declaration gives MID staff the authority to implement measures necessary to respond to the emergency.

“We have a civic duty and must share in the responsibility to help slow the spread of this virus,” said MID Board President Paul Campbell. “Though we’ve made some temporary adjustments to our operations, MID – your community-owned, public utility – is taking these measures to remain resilient in providing electricity to your homes, keeping water flowing to our farms and delivering high-quality drinking water to the City of Modesto.”

We’re taking the following proactive measures and implementing social distancing practices to minimize exposure and maximize prevention of the virus.

MID’s lobby will be closed until further notice. While this closure will affect some customers, there are several ways to continue to contact us and pay your MID electric bill:

Phone – 209-526-7337 or 1-888-335-1643 toll-free. Make a payment by credit or debit card or check your balance by phone free of charge. Anytime. Payments made after 5 p.m. will be credited to your account the following business day.

Online – Visit mid.org and sign up or sign in to access your MID account to view your current balance or make a payment online. Residential customers can pay with Discover, Visa and MasterCard credit or debit cards. Non-residential customers can pay with a checking or savings account.

Mail – Write your account number on your check or money order, include your payment stub if possible and send to:

Modesto Irrigation District | P.O. Box 5355 | Modesto, CA 95352-5355

Email – Customer service representatives can assist customers via email at customerservice@mid.org.

Irrigation customers – Call or email MID’s Irrigation Services office at 209-526-7639 or IrrigationField@mid.org. Customers can also continue to contact their ditch tenders directly.

Also, while people in our community are encouraged to stay home and may be experiencing resulting hardships, MID has suspended power shutoffs for non-payment.

Lastly, with guidance from health professionals – including [Stanislaus County Health Services Agency](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control](#) – MID employees are practicing social distancing, including working alternate schedules and also working from home. While the number of MID employees physically in our offices has changed, we’re striving to safely continue our operations and maintain the same level of service to our customers.

We encourage our customers to follow credible sources for COVID-19 updates and recommendations for protecting yourself, your families and our community. We can all work together to be prepared and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

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Media Contacts

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About the Modesto Irrigation District (MID)

The Modesto Irrigation District, established in 1887, is a vertically integrated public utility located in California’s Central Valley. MID provides irrigation water to more than 2,300 agricultural accounts irrigating close to 60,000 acres and electricity to more than 128,000 residential, commercial and agricultural accounts in Modesto, Empire, Salida, Waterford and Mountain House as well as parts of Escalon, Oakdale, Ripon and Riverbank. MID also treats, delivers and wholesales up to 67,000 acre-feet of drinking water per year to the City of Modesto. For more information about MID visit www.mid.org or follow MID on Facebook ([@modestoirrigationdistrict](#)) and Twitter ([@mod_irrigation](#)).

PROCLAMATION OF EXISTENCE OF A DISTRICT STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, various governmental agencies at all levels of government have declared states of emergency in the past and ongoing days arising from what is commonly known as Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), Modesto Irrigation District (District) has also declared a state of emergency as of March 16, 2020 relating to its customers and employees and related services provided by the District; and

WHEREAS, the District's Board of Directors may empower the General Manager, or designee, to proclaim the existence or threatened existence of a District emergency, and/or to pursue appropriate measures to protect the health and safety of District employees and members of the public, when the District is affected, or likely to be affected by conditions of extreme peril or the safety of persons and District property within the District's boundaries; and

WHEREAS, Government Code section 8558(b) defines a State of emergency in pertinent part as "...duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions such as air pollution, fire, flood, storm, epidemic, riot, drought, cyberterrorism, sudden and severe energy shortage, plant or animal infestation or disease, the Governor's warning of an earthquake or volcanic prediction, or an earthquake..."; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that may result in serious illness or death and is easily transmissible from person to person. As of March 16, 2020, it has been reported that COVID-19 has spread to over 90 countries including the United States, and is spreading to a growing number of California cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Public Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public emergency for COVID-19, and on March 4, 2020 the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a State of Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Stanislaus County Public Health Officer declared a local emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a new executive order further enhancing state and local government's ability to respond to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the County of Stanislaus Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a local emergency due to the threat of COVID-19 in the County; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States, Donald Trump, declared a state of national emergency in response to the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, as of March 16, 2020 there have been three confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in Stanislaus County; and

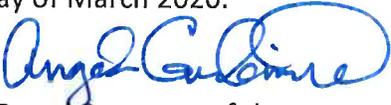
WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the District's customers, community and employees is the highest priority to District, and additional future measures may be needed to protect the customers, community and employees; and

WHEREAS, existing conditions related to COVID-19 warrant the proclamation of emergency as duly provided by the District's Board of Directors on March 16, 2020.

IT IS PROCLAIMED that this State of emergency regarding COVID-19 is declared in order to empower the District to respond effectively to COVID-19; seek and utilize mutual aid; ensure the District is able to obtain reimbursement for its efforts in dealing with this local emergency; and ensure that District employees have all the necessary tools and practices in place to slow the spread of COVID-19. Accordingly, the District's Board of Directors authorizes management to pursue appropriate measures to protect the health and safety of District employees and members of the public.

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I, Angela Cartisano, Board Secretary of the Modesto Irrigation District, do hereby CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a version of the Proclamation duly adopted at an emergency meeting of said Board of Directors held the sixteenth day of March 2020.


Board Secretary of the
Modesto Irrigation District