



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Contact: Ted Selb
209-722-5761

Merced Irrigation District to Hold Public Hearing on FERC Relicensing *Public hearing part of process to relicense MID's owned and operated project*

(MERCED, Calif.) July 17, 2008— The Merced Irrigation District invites members of the public and resource agencies to an initial public meeting from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM on Wednesday, July 23, 2008 at the Hampton Inn at 225 S. Parsons Ave. in Merced. The purpose of the meeting is to allow the public to assist in the development of its application to apply for a new Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license on its Merced River Hydroelectric Project located on the Merced River in Mariposa County, California.

MID owns and operates the above-named Project, which is composed of Lake McClure, New Exchequer Dam and Powerhouse, McSwain Reservoir and McSwain Dam and Powerhouse. The current FERC license for the Project expires on February 28, 2014. MID intends to apply for a new license for the Project no later than February 28, 2012.

At the meeting, MID will provide a description of the Project, discuss the relicensing process it plans to use to prepare its application for a new license and discuss the schedule for future meetings. In addition, meeting participants will discuss sources of information that might be useful for the relicensing, known and potential Project effects and preliminary issues. The morning portion of the session will be devoted to Project overview and the remainder, after lunch, will focus on agency input. Lunch for the session is included.

Information regarding the Merced River Hydroelectric Project and the relicensing can be found on MID's relicensing website at www.merced-relicensing.com. For more information about MID, visit www.mercedid.org.

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