

## **MID Appoints Mike Jensen as Public Relations Coordinator**

(MERCED, CA) **January 10, 2011** – The Merced Irrigation District (“MID”) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Mike Jensen as its new Public Relations Coordinator. Mr. Jensen was the Communications Director for Congressman Dennis Cardoza, working in both the San Joaquin Valley and in Washington, D.C. Mr. Jensen has elected employment that will keep him home in the Valley while remaining directly involved in the local community. “I am very excited to have Mr. Jensen joining the MID team”, said John Sweigard, General Manager. “His experience and public service dedication will be assets to MID and the community that we serve.”

Mr. Jensen developed his communications, public relations and government affairs expertise during his tenure on Congressman Cardoza’s staff as well as his editorial experience with California newspaper publications.

Mr. Jensen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of California, Santa Cruz and an Associate Degree of Science from College of the Sequoias in Visalia. He is a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Operation Adoption. Over the years he has also participated on the following committees: Merced County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council; Merced County Veterans Advisory Council; The South Merced Initiative for Community Improvement Task Force; and the Steering Committee to establish a Merced Veterans Day Parade. Prior to attending college, Mr. Jensen served our Country in the U.S. Navy where he received several commendations and deployed to the Persian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier USS Constellation in support of Operation Southern Watch. We thank him for his service.

In a statement, Mr. Jensen stated, “I am extremely excited to be returning full-time to my community and family in the San Joaquin Valley. I am eager to begin my service to the Merced Irrigation District, its customers and our community.”

Mr. Jensen will be responsible for planning and conducting MID public relations programs to ensure public education and community involvement.