

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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NEWS RELEASE



93 MW Power Plant is IID's First in 29 Years

(Niland, CA) – Imperial Irrigation District (IID) held its official groundbreaking ceremony for its Niland Gas Turbine Plant Project today announced Charles Hosken, Manager of IID.

“We are excited about starting construction of the Niland Gas Turbine Plant, IID’s first new power plant to be built in 29 years,” said Hosken. “Designed to meet peaking resource needs that are so crucial during the summer in this desert region, the plant will also increase future system capacity necessary to address growth.”

IID Board President Stella Mendoza stated, “The IID service area has experienced an economic expansion in recent years at an overall rate of about 7 percent. This new facility is representative of our efforts to continue providing reliable, affordable energy to our growing customer base.”

Employing state-of-the-art technology, the Niland Gas Turbine Project will be constructed using two General Electric LM6000 Dry Low-NOx combustion turbine generators. The plant was issued a Small Power Plant Exemption Permit by the California Energy Commission for meeting stringent requirements that produce no unmitigated impacts to the environment.

The facility, which is to be fueled by natural gas supplied by Southern California Gas Company, will be fully owned by IID.

IID also signed Project Labor Agreements and Maintenance Labor Agreements with California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE) to ensure union-craft labor is used to construct the plant. CURE is a coalition of unions whose members help solve the State’s energy problems by building, maintaining and operating conventional and renewable energy power plants.

CURE’s Chairman, Bob Balgenorth shares his enthusiasm about the project. “The Imperial Valley deserves, and needs, skilled workers that form the backbone of a healthy economy.”

Construction of the facility is expected to begin in May 2007 with commercial operation slated for May 2008. ARB Industrial, based in Lake Forest, California, will serve as the engineering, procurement and construction contractor.

The groundbreaking ceremony was attended by more than 100 representatives from the local business community. Speakers included Senator Denise Ducheny’s representative, Aida Gates, CURE Chairman and President, State Building & Construction Trades Council of California, Bob Balgenorth, IID Board President Stella Mendoza, IID General Manager Charles Hosken and IID Assistant Manager of Energy Production, Henryk Olstowski.

IID Energy is one of the fastest growing utilities in the nation and provides electric power to over 138,000 customers in Imperial County and parts of Riverside and San Diego counties. The third largest public power provider in California, IID Energy manages approximately 1000 MW of energy derived from a diverse resource portfolio of renewable and non-renewable sources that include its own generation and purchased power.

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