

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2018

MID launches Until the Last Drop to highlight ongoing water challenges

Don Pedro Project relicensing process enters critical time period

MID has launched **Until the Last Drop**, a new informational campaign to create awareness of the ongoing battle for water in our community. In 2011, Modesto Irrigation District and Turlock Irrigation District began the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) process to relicense the Don Pedro Project – dam, powerhouse and reservoir. Through FERC's collaborative, integrated licensing process, MID and TID invested \$25 million to conduct more than 35 site-specific studies on the Tuolumne River and develop the <u>Tuolumne River Management Plan</u>.

MID and TID submitted the Tuolumne River Management Plan in our Amended Final License Application to FERC in October 2017. In response to our plan, federal and state regulatory agencies and conservation groups have submitted comments, recommendations and preliminary mandatory conditions – including seven different flow proposals – to FERC. These proposals – if ultimately implemented by FERC – will have significant and lasting impacts to our customers, communities and local water supplies.

FERC is currently taking into consideration the various proposals submitted to them and is expected to release their Draft Environmental Impact Report this fall. We are reaching a critical time in the relicensing process. Until the Last Drop will educate our region on our efforts, as well as our investment in Tuolumne River-centric science which is the basis of our Tuolumne River Management Plan. For more information, visit mid.org/lastdrop.



Media Contacts

Melissa Williams | melissa.williams@mid.org | 209.526.7390 Samantha Wookey | samantha.wookey@mid.org | 209.526.7454

About 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 approximately 3,100 agricultural customers irrigating close to 60,000 acres and electricity to more than 122,000 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.

Follow MID on Social Media

Like MID on Facebook <u>@modestoirrigationdistrict</u> Follow MID on Twitter <u>@mod_irrigation</u>