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EID Workers' Comp Insurance Costs Decrease **Employees thanked for their diligence**

Placerville, CA. . . . El Dorado Irrigation District (district) has received good news from its workers' compensation insurer. Because of the district's strong safety record, the Joint Powers Insurance Authority is again reducing the district's premium payment. This marks the fifth year out of the past six years that the district has earned a decrease in its premiums.

"It's always good news for our customers when we keep costs down," said EID board president George Wheeldon. "In the 2003-2004 fiscal year, our workers' comp insurance premium peaked at more than \$1.9 million. If the district had continued on that path, we would have paid \$7 million more in premiums than we actually have in the years since. Instead, we improved our safety record and back-to-work programs, and our premiums have dropped nearly 75 percent, to an average of about \$500,000 a year. For 2009-2010, the cost will be \$487,375. That's \$34,300 less than last year."

"Most important, this really says a lot about how seriously our employees take job safety," Wheeldon said. "I'm continually impressed by the district's safety programs, the work of safety officer Mike Bristow, and the employees' strong support for safety in the workplace."

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