

**For Immediate Release**

**August 21, 2009**

## **New Wastewater Collection System Plan in Place In-house work saves more than \$155,000**

**Placerville, CA. . . .** The El Dorado Irrigation District (district) board of directors has approved the final elements of a new plan that will guide management, operation, and maintenance of the district's wastewater collection system.

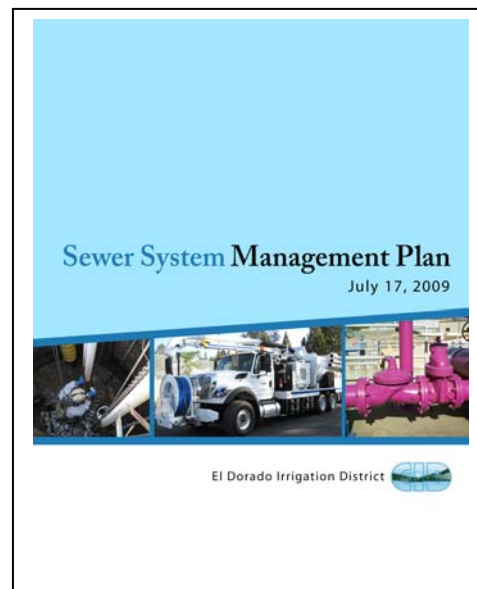
EID assistant engineer Janice Ster, who coordinated the in-house team's efforts to produce the plan, said the district "saved between \$155,000 and \$255,000 in consulting fees by using our own expertise to complete all but one of the eleven elements of the plan."

"Only the system modeling component of the plan was performed by an outside consultant," said Elizabeth Wells, the district's engineering manager for wastewater and recycled water services. "That consultant is working on our integrated water, wastewater, and recycled water master plan, where modeling plays a central role. It was a perfect fit."

"I'm extremely proud of our team," she added. "We completed the plan in a cost-efficient manner, and we met every deadline set by the State Water Resources Control Board."

The plan fills a state mandate requiring all agencies that provide wastewater collection services to adopt sewer system management plans. A primary goal of the plans, according to the state regulation, is to prevent and reduce the number of sanitary sewer overflows. "The steps we included in the plan produce information needed to improve management and operation of our sewer system," Ster said, "and that should help us meet the state's goal. We ran a test of the steps, and the results show we have the right approaches in place. We are able to deliver data and a number of reports that will be very useful for our operators and managers over the long term."

Staff presented the final four elements of the plan to the EID board of directors at the July 13 Board meeting. The entire plan is posted on the district's website.



**Read the plan at [www.eid.org](http://www.eid.org).**

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