

**MEDIA ALERT**



**AS EXPECTED, PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT'S "FURLOUGH" PROGRAM  
WAS AUTHORIZED TO END AT LAST NIGHT'S BOARD MEETING**

*With Financial Situation at PWD Continually Improving, Furloughed Employees Will Be  
Back to Work Full-Time to Provide Improved Customer Service*

**PALMDALE, CA, October 1, 2009** – Palmdale Water District announced today the end of its District-wide furlough program in which each employee had been mandated to take two days off each month without pay. This furlough action had been necessary to address a temporary cash flow problem created by the City of Palmdale's lawsuits against PWD which had prevented the District from accessing \$18 million dollars in reimbursements. This furlough went into effect on June 21, 2009 and has saved the District an estimated \$69,000 in operating expenses. PWD's payroll will return to the previously allotted 2009 budget.

Since the furlough program has been put in place, PWD staff has been short-handed which, admittedly, has meant a drop in the level of customer service for PWD customers. The ending of the furlough program will help PWD return to normal customer service levels. This action will enable PWD to once again have the office opened on Fridays beginning on October 9 and return staff to full time work.

"The furlough program was a useful tool that helped the District solve its operating cash flow problem," PWD General Manager Randy Hill declared. "It was unfortunate in that it reduced the level of customer service. Now that we can return our staff to full time work, we should be able to get back to the level of service both we and our customers expect. Our customers deserve the best service we can provide and our employees deserve the full jobs for which they were hired. It is a happy day for everyone here at the Palmdale Water District. It should be considered great news for our community, as well."

### **About Palmdale Water District**

The Palmdale Water district has grown from an agency providing irrigation water for 60 customers, to an agency providing domestic water to the thriving community we know today. Founded as Irrigation District supplying water mainly to farms for agricultural use, the district's boundaries have expanded with Palmdale's rapid population growth and the District has shifted to providing predominantly municipal and industrial water. The Palmdale Water District is currently divided into five divisions covering areas in East and West Palmdale. The Palmdale Water District remains dedicated to providing clean, pure water; state of the art facilities to meet current and future needs; attentive staff committed to customer satisfaction; treatment and testing to ensure high quality water; education on water conservation and safety; and reliable supply and resourceful planning insuring customer satisfaction and continued reasonable rates. The Palmdale Water District can be reached by calling (661) 947-4111. The Palmdale Water District is located at 2029 E Avenue Q in Palmdale, California.

#### **Palmdale Water District Board Members:**

- |            |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|
| Division 1 | Jeff Storm - President       |
| Division 2 | Dick Wells - Treasurer       |
| Division 3 | Linda Godin - Secretary      |
| Division 4 | Raul Figueroa - Director     |
| Division 5 | David Gomez - Vice President |

**Use Water Wisely. It's a Way of Life.**