

SMUD News Release

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

• News Media Services

• 916•732•5111

For immediate release

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Carmichael Water District wins SMUD award for responsible energy stewardship

SMUD Board recognizes energy-conscious commercial customer

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is honoring Carmichael Water District for its overall commitment to implementing energy efficiency measures to reduce energy consumption and promote environmental protection.

The SMUD Community Energy Award honors commercial customers who share SMUD's values of efficiency and environmental sensitivity, and who have turned these beliefs into actions. These customers have controlled their energy usage, improved their bottom line, and reduced the amount of energy that must be generated for our region.

This award recognizes the achievement of Carmichael Water District for participation in SMUD's commercial energy efficiency program. Carmichael Water District continues to support and demonstrate the importance of safeguarding the environment.

Its recent efforts have focused on clean and renewable energy usage. The water district installed a solar array that provides electricity for its main office. The 17-kilowatt array is the first of its kind in the SMUD service territory and the first photovoltaic system to be installed by a water purveyor in Sacramento County.

The unique "bifacial" technology of the system allows solar radiation to be collected on the underside of the panels through a reflective canopy mounted on the underside of the structure. This feature improves energy production of the system by 10 percent. It also serves as a carport to shade vehicles on hot days.

The expected annual energy production from this innovative solar array is approximately 28,000 kilowatt-hours. It is expected to reduce annual CO2 emissions by 39,000 pounds or the equivalent of planting five acres of trees each year.

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2-2-2-2 Carmichael Water District wins SMUD award

Carmichael Water District partnered with SMUD and the California Energy Commission on the project, with both agencies providing funding. SMUD also assisted in the design of the system.

“Carmichael Water District is an excellent example of a SMUD customer doing its part to help our community by reducing its energy use,” said Bill Slaton, SMUD Ward 7 Director. “Hopefully, more customers will follow The District’s lead and take advantage of SMUD programs that can help them save money and benefit the entire community.”

Established in 1916, Carmichael Water District is an irrigation district located in and serving the Carmichael community. The water district’s service area spans eight square miles, serving a population of almost 40,000 that is predominantly residential in nature.

In 2003, Carmichael Water District was a recipient of a Business Environmental Resource Center Award. The water district was recognized for implementing various measures and actions that improved water quality, reduced chemical use, and reduced wastewater.

To be eligible for the SMUD Community Energy Award, commercial customers must share SMUD’s strategic directives in environmental protection and efficient energy use. The customers also incorporate the innovative use of emerging or new energy technologies. One customer is chosen in each of the seven SMUD Board wards.

For more information about SMUD’s commercial programs that can save businesses money on electric bills, visit smud.org.

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(Photo on page 3)



3-3-3-3 Carmichael Water District wins SMUD award

A print-quality file of the image below is available on request.



Suggested caption: SMUD Board Director Bill Slaton presents Steve Nugent of Carmichael Water District with a SMUD Community Energy Award. The award honors commercial customers who share SMUD's values of efficiency and environmental sensitivity, and who worked with the utility to turn these beliefs into actions.

