

## News Release

Mammoth Community Water District  
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### **District Purchases Generators to Protect the Community's Water Supply and Maintain Services.**

*In response to SCE's Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) program and recent related power outages, the Mammoth Community Water District invested in generators and equipment to ensure service and protect the Community's surface water supply regardless of electric power availability.*

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**Mammoth Lakes, California – December 18, 2019** –In October, the Mammoth Community Water District (District) Board of Directors unanimously voted to amend the fiscal year 2020 budget to allow the purchase of equipment for operating District facilities in the Lakes Basin during power outages. The District's surface water supply, Lake Mary, is surrounded by sewer lift stations. These stations require electricity to pump sewage out of the Lakes Basin and if left without power for an extended period of time, lift stations can overflow, damage internal equipment, and potentially affect the drinking water source. Following Board approval, maintenance staff purchased 5 generators, automated transfer switches, and completed Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) programming changes to allow generators to start and stop automatically. These portable generators can be quickly moved into positions where needed to provide temporary emergency power.

"Safe and reliable access to the Lakes Basin can be compromised depending on weather conditions and time of year. The new equipment is designed to be moved into position ahead of the PSPS event and left in place during inclement weather. This reduces the urgency for staff to respond immediately during a power outage" stated Robert Motley, Plant Maintenance/Instrumentation and Electrical Supervisor. Mr. Motley went on to say, "The District now has fully automated back-up power available and the generators only run when required for pumping or heating purposes. The upgrades improve safety of District operations, reduce generator fuel consumption and save staff time."

"The District is fortunate to have talented, proactive staff working under a responsible and supportive Board" said Mark Busby, General Manager. "This project puts the District in an appropriate position to respond to future power outages."

District customers are fortunate to be at the top of the watershed. This project ensures protection of the water supply and watershed that the community of Mammoth Lakes relies on. To learn more about District operations visit <https://mcwd.dst.ca.us/>.

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MCWD provides water and wastewater utility service to the Town of Mammoth Lakes and surrounding areas. MCWD strives to provide reliable, affordable utility service to our customers and to conduct our operations in a manner reflecting our stewardship role. We encourage our customers to practice responsible use of our limited water resources, and to take advantage of the information and services available to support this goal.