



Summer 2025

## From The General Manager

Kinneloa Irrigation District Customers and Community Members,

We had intended to publish a newsletter in early January summarizing our activities from 2024 and our plans for 2025. That plan was disrupted along with all our lives by the Eaton Fire. Some of us lost our homes, others are still displaced due to damage and all of us were evacuated at some point and had to endure several weeks of no electricity and limited service from other utilities. Overall, I am proud at how our system and our team performed through that disaster. Like all water agencies in the fire footprint, we were required by law to issue a Do Not Drink order as a precaution until we could complete the required testing to lift that order. KID was one of the first agencies to perform the testing and lift its Do Not Drink order system wide. Other impacted agencies had the order in place months. One of the reasons why our area was spared from the level of devastation that others saw was that our water system was able to maintain normal system pressure throughout the entire event and our service was never interrupted. This helps provide water for the fire suppression effort and prevented our system from being contaminated by the gases that contaminated other water systems when the system lost pressure.

We were able to do this because of two primary reasons. One, following the 1993 Kinneloa Fire the customers and Directors of KID decided that it was worth investing in

a more resilient water system. Those resilience measures included many pipeline upgrades but also the purchase and installation of emergency backup generators at all pumping sites. I believe KID is the only agency in the area that has a backup generator at every pumping site. Having those generators allowed us to continue to produce and distribute water through the system while Southern California Edison (SCE) power was out for several weeks. Secondly, our partnership with Pasadena Water & Power (PWP) has remained strong and each of us has invested in constructing interconnection facilities that allow us to share water with each other as needed. Not fifteen minutes after the fire started, I called one of our contacts at PWP and told them we would be opening one of the interconnections which allowed us to take water from PWP overnight and keep our system full. The fire destroyed PWP's Don Benito Tanks at the top of Hastings Ranch. Just a few days after the fire, we started operating an interconnection that allows PWP to take KID water, and many of their Upper Hastings Ranch customers have been served from our Vosburg Reservoir since then. We will continue this operation for at least a year until Pasadena is able to rebuild the Don Benito Tanks. These generators and interconnections are the result of a significant investment of time and financial resources by a generation of customers before us. The value of those investments is priceless, and we must continue making investments so that KID can continue to be resilient to future disasters.

With respect to fire damage and recovery, although we escaped catastrophic damage, we still do have physical and financial damage to recover from. A significant amount of money was spent in the first month keeping the system running including overtime for KID staff and assistance from third parties. We have filed a request for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance and are working through the process to be reimbursed for eligible costs. These taxpayer-funded Public Assistance programs require recipients to pursue claims against negligent parties. To satisfy that requirement, KID has joined with the Altadena water agencies, the City of Sierra Madre, the City of Pasadena, and the County of Los Angeles in filing a lawsuit against Southern California Edison for Inverse Condemnation, Negligence, Premises Liability and several related complaints. Our complaint was filed with the Superior Court

of the State of California, County of Los Angeles on April 29th. There will likely be stories in the press about these newly filed complaints.

Although the Eaton Fire is fresh on our minds, 2024 was a highly productive year for the District. We completed a comprehensive Water System Evaluation and 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan. That work informed a detailed water rate study that was approved by your Board of Directors and established new rates beginning in January 2025 through January 2029. This was a large effort, and the District attempted to make sure all customers were aware of and informed of the process. You likely noticed a change to your bill effective in January as Daily Service Charges are now based on meter size, consistent with industry practice and case law around rate setting. Customers that want more information on this are encouraged to visit the District website. In the search bar, you can enter “water rates” or just “rates” and you will be led to the Prop 218 notice along with a “Public Rate Hearing Frequently Asked Questions” that we hope is helpful in understanding why this change was made.

The District remains committed to being a responsible steward of our water system and the investments that support its long-term strength. While some projects planned for this year have been delayed by impacts from the Eaton Fire, we are actively moving forward with critical improvements that enhance system reliability and resilience.




**Tom Majich**  
General Manager

---

## **2024 Consumer Confidence Report Is Here — See What's in Your Tap!**

The Kinneloa Irrigation District's 2024 Consumer Confidence Report is now available. This annual water quality report provides information about your drinking water, including the source of the water, any detected contaminants, and compliance with drinking water regulations.

 **View the report online:** <https://tinyurl.com/KID2024CCR>

 **To request a mailed copy,** contact our office at (626) 797-6295 or email us at [kid@kidwater.info](mailto:kid@kidwater.info).

---

## **Stay Connected: Emergency Communications**

Our ability to communicate effectively with you during emergencies, temporary service outages, or maintenance work is only as good as the contact information we have on file. If you've changed your phone number or email recently, please visit our website and update your contact info. This ensures you'll receive timely alerts through our One Call Now notification system, especially in situations where every minute counts.

 **Visit our website:** [www.kinneloa Irrigation District.info](http://www.kinneloa Irrigation District.info)

 **Submit contact form online:** <https://tinyurl.com/ALERTKID>

---