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(Photos of Alex DiLeo are available by email. Please contact Dave Carter at the above telephone number or at ncnews@sbcglobal.net.)

**Alex DiLeo Retires From
35-Year Career With PCWA**

Auburn - When the 2004 irrigation season opens on Apr. 15, Alex DiLeo won't be on hand to oversee the process that he has been involved with since 1968.

The 58-year-old Auburn resident is retiring as the Placer County Water Agency's Deputy Director of Field Services, a position in which he led a staff of 24 in the operation and maintenance of the agency's extensive raw water delivery system.

PCWA's raw water system includes more than 165 miles of canals, tunnels, reservoirs, pipelines, diversion structures and other facilities that stretch throughout the foothills of western Placer County.

"Alex has a tremendous knowledge of our water system and our customers," said PCWA Director of Field Services Mike Nichol. "He's been very active in the community --he grew up here--and he has always shown a tremendous commitment to the agency.

"He knows so much about what we do and has passed this knowledge on to his successors," Nichol said. "Alex has always had a positive attitude and freely shared that upbeat tone with his colleagues for over three decades."

DiLeo went to work for the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. shortly after graduating from Placer High School in 1963. He was working for PG&E when PCWA assumed ownership of the county water supply and delivery system in 1968 (known as Zone 1).

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“The agency came over and recruited,” he recalled in a recent interview. “I was one of 14 employees on the original PCWA water system crew. I’m the last one here.”

DiLeo worked with PCWA Field Services throughout his career, rising through the ranks from helper to canal operator, canal operations supervisor, canal foreman, raw water superintendent and deputy director.

During his career, he has seen significant changes in land use and water use in Placer County including the agency’s acquisition of other PG&E water systems through the years. He feels the agency has done a very good job in meeting the growing customer base and the changing water needs within the county.

DiLeo plans to enjoy retirement in Auburn with his wife, Donna. They have three daughters and four grandchildren. He plans to continue as a member of Auburn Fire Department Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1 and to do other volunteer work, along with some travel, scuba diving and golfing.

Deputy Director of Field Services Rick Allan, an Auburn resident and 22-year PCWA employee, has been appointed as DiLeo’s successor.