

**July 2, 2004**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

*Auburn* - Supplies of raw water to the Placer County Water Agency will be interrupted on Tuesday, July 13, when the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. will conduct an algae removal project on the Bear River Canal just west of Colfax.

PCWA Director of Field Services Mike Nichol said an 8-hour outage is planned and that the canal will be out of service for 24 hours. He encouraged customers to conserve water during that time.

The water agency is preparing for the outage by maximizing storage at Bowman Water Treatment Plant and Rock Creek Reservoir, Nichol said.

PG&E is planning to remove algae from a 1200-foot stretch of the Bear River Canal where the algae has limited water-carrying capacity. The limitation has reduced water flowing to PCWA by 15 percent, said Nichol.

"PG&E has stepped up to the plate to get this done," he said. "We are hopeful that more water will be available when the work is finished."

To remove the algae, PG&E plans to lower a piece of equipment into the canal and water blast the growth from the canal base and walls.

Water users with questions about the project may call the PCWA Customer Service Center at 823-4850.