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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

28 Years With PCWA Power System Manager Steve Jones Retires July 1

AUBURN -- Retiring Power System Manager Steve Jones was recognized at Thursday's (June 16) meeting of the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors. Jones retires July 1 following a 28-year career with the agency.

"Our Middle Fork American River Hydroelectric Project has been highly successful because of Steve's energetic and professional management," said PCWA General Manager David A. Breninger.

"Steve has always prided himself on keeping our project in a 'good as new' condition, in both appearance and operational performance, as it was back in 1967 when it was completed," Breninger continued. "He has made sure the project generates as many megawatts of energy as possible while storing our Placer County 'area-of-origin' water supplies for maximum beneficial uses by the water agency."

The PCWA Power System, based in Foresthill, operates the Middle Fork Project with its extensive network of reservoirs, dams, waterways and powerhouses. The system employs 18 and has a 2011 operating budget of \$13.8 million.

Jones' administration of Power System contracts, supervision of many contractors over the years, and administration of projects, including the current upgrade of the spillway at French Meadows Dam, won accolades. He also was commended for his personnel management abilities, team building over the years and for nurturing pride of workmanship and high performance among his staff.

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“Over the years, Steve has spent a great deal of time in negotiations with our power purchase partner, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, to ensure adequate support and funding to sustain our project at a high level,” said Breninger. “He has worked closely with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the U.S. Forest Service, and other important regulatory agencies.”

Jones said he is thankful for the opportunity to work with “great people, highly competent people. It’s been a tremendous pleasure to work for PCWA these past 28 years,” he said.

An engineering graduate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Jones spent eight years with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, working out of the Sacramento regional office, before joining PCWA in June 1983.

Jones and his wife, Debbie, reside in Foresthill. In retirement, they plan to enjoy some travel and spend plenty of time with their grandchildren.



Steve Jones, right, was honored at Thursday's meeting of the Placer County Water Agency Board of Directors. Jones, who is retiring after 28 years with the agency, is pictured with General Manager David Breninger and Board Chairman Lowell Jarvis.