

TO: Landowners/Tenants/Irrigators

TOPIC: Center Pivot Irrigation Systems that are permitted to cross Pathfinder Irrigation District laterals and associated facilities.

The District, by Board approval, grants permission to landowners to cross District laterals and associated facilities with center pivot irrigation systems on a case by case basis. This permission is contingent upon the operation of the center pivot system in compliance with the District's Pivot Crossing Policy. The District has become concerned that many of the center pivots are not in compliance with the policy and <u>could be subject to having their permission revoked</u>. The major concerns at this time deal with the control of weed growth on the lateral banks and roadway and the inability of District staff to access facilities due to wet/muddy access roads. The District's policy addresses these issues and the pertinent sections are listed below.

- 3.1 The owner of any center pivot system that applies water to the District's access roadway, either by crossing over the roadway, or by the application of water from the end of the pivot or end-gun will be required to reimburse the District for its cost to gravel and rock the affected area. If an owner wishes to gravel and repair the affected area themselves they can do so as long as it is done to the satisfaction of the District. The landowner will reimburse the District for any costs it incurs for additional maintenance as a result of the landowners' operation and maintenance of the center pivot.
- 3.2 The owner of any center pivot irrigation system that applies water to the District's right-of-way, including the banks of any canal or lateral will be responsible to control the grass and weed growth on both banks in the affected area through the use of safe and approved herbicides. Failure to do so may result in the District through Board action revoking the owners' permission to cross the right-of-way.

Another issue that applies to all center pivots that pump from District deliveries; is the requirement that they have an overflow system to handle any excess water without backing into the District's facilities whether it is a canal, lateral or pipeline. Not having an overflow or plugging the overflow to avoid spills onto the landowner's property may result in termination of water deliveries until an overflow is installed and/or made functional.

## 3.5.1. <u>The pit/structure must have an automatic overflow installed of sufficient</u> size as to not backup or overflow water into the District's facilities.

This notice is to make you aware of these issues and District policy. Your actions to address these issues are important to retaining your permission for crossing District laterals/facilities and receiving water deliveries. Please take the appropriate actions to address these issues. If you have already taken the necessary actions, we thank you for your actions and encourage you to continue efforts to comply with District policy. If you are not in compliance please take immediate steps to comply, your permission to cross the lateral/facilities and receive water deliveries is contingent upon your actions.

Pathfinder Irrigation District Board of Directors Management/Staff