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For Immediate Release: May 28, 2020

SMUD extends suspension of power shutoffs for non-payment through January 4, 2021

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and growing economic challenges, SMUD announced it will extend the suspension of disconnecting power due to non-payment for residential and commercial customers until January 4, 2021.

“Our commitment to the community remains strong through tough financial times,” said Arlen Orchard, CEO and General Manager of SMUD. “Because of the impact that this pandemic is having on our community, we want to ensure that our most vulnerable customers have access to power during these times.”

The suspension of power disconnection due to non-payment began March 13 and will last through Jan. 4, 2021, as SMUD continues to monitor the evolving situation.

Customers who are behind on payment will still owe SMUD for service, they will just not lose power at this time. Customers are encouraged to contact SMUD to make payment arrangements or to enquire about energy assistance rates and other programs.

Since March, SMUD has suspended power shutoffs for non-payment and late fees, as well as adjusting its low-income rate so more people can qualify. SMUD is also offering flexible payment arrangement options.

In the midst of this COVID-19 pandemic, SMUD has taken a number of actions to keep its employees and the community safe. As an essential service provider, SMUD is proactively minimizing risk to employees to ensure reliable electric service and is asking the public to abide by the social distancing guidelines and not approach work crews. Their safety and well-being is key to keeping our community powered, so please thank them from afar. For information about our continued efforts, please visit [SMUD.org/Covid19](https://www.smud.org/Covid19) (/Error Pages/404 Page?item=web%3a%7bFA1EF992-358F-4759-B920-40CE9925C896%7d%40en).



About SMUD

As the nation's sixth-largest community-owned electric service provider, SMUD has been providing low-cost, reliable electricity for almost 75 years to Sacramento County (and small adjoining portions of Placer and Yolo Counties). SMUD is a recognized industry leader and award winner for its innovative energy efficiency programs, renewable power technologies, and for its sustainable solutions for a healthier environment. SMUD's energy is about 50 percent carbon-free and is on track to deliver 100 percent net-zero carbon electricity by 2040, ahead of California's 2045 goal.

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