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For Immediate Release: December 17, 2020

SMUD extends suspension of power shutoffs for non-payment through April 30, 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 through April 30, 2021, at the earliest.

“We remain committed to the well-being of our community through these unprecedented times,” said SMUD CEO and General Manager Paul Lau. “The economic impact of the pandemic on our community is great and we’ll continue to ensure that our customers, especially the most vulnerable, have access to safe and reliable power during these times.”

The suspension of power disconnection due to non-payment began March 13 and will last through April 30, 2021, at the earliest, 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 adjusted 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/HeretoHelp](http://www.smud.org/heretohelp) (<http://www.smud.org/heretohelp>),

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 power mix is about 50 percent non-carbon emitting. For more information, visit [smud.org](https://www.smud.org/) (<https://www.smud.org/>).

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