

*Please Return to:
Executive Assistant
Kennewick Irrigation District
12 West Kennewick Avenue
Kennewick, WA 99336*

KENNEWICK IRRIGATION DISTRICT RESOLUTION 2011-35

**SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 2124 AND SENATE BILL 5964 THAT
NORROWS THE REQUIREMENT FOR UTILITIES TO PURCHASE ELIGIBLE
RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES OR RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS
WHEN NOT NEEDED TO SERVE CUSTOMER LOADS.**

WHEREAS, the Kennewick Irrigation District (KID) generally supports conservation efforts for water and power, the KID is also sensitive to the cost to the end user; and

WHEREAS, KID has numerous electrical pumps and has an electrical bill approaching \$400,000 per year to operate the motors and pumps to deliver irrigation water to its customers; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 937 (the Initiative), passed in 2006 which resulted in the Energy Independence Act (EIA), required qualifying utilities to incrementally increase the amount of eligible renewable resources to 15 percent by 2020 and to pursue all cost-effective conservation requirements starting in 2010; AND

WHEREAS, the Initiative narrowly defined eligible renewable resources to exclude existing hydropower, a clean renewable resource supplying over two-thirds of the electricity in the state of Washington; AND

WHEREAS, the Initiative imposed significant financial penalties for failure to meet renewable requirements and conservation targets; AND

WHEREAS, the Initiative failed in Benton County with 66 percent of the voters opposing the Initiative, failed in Franklin County with 67 percent of the voters opposing the Initiative and statewide passing by only 51.6 percent; AND

WHEREAS, many utilities' energy demands are not growing as projected or have declined due to the combination of successful conservation programs and the poor economy; AND

WHEREAS, the EIA requires qualifying utilities to purchase specific qualified renewable energy resources or renewable energy credits even if the utilities don't need additional power; AND

WHEREAS, the purchase of unneeded eligible renewable energy resources or renewable energy credits will have a detrimental impact on utility budgets by increasing customer rates and negatively affecting the economy; AND

WHEREAS, House Bill 2124 and Senate Bill 5964 provide qualifying utilities the choice to avoid the purchase of unneeded renewable energy or renewable energy credits; AND

WHEREAS, House Bill 2124 and Senate Bill 5964 do not change the overall intent of Initiative 937, which is to encourage the use of conservation and the use of renewable energy resources; AND

WHEREAS, House Bill 2124 and Senate Bill 5964 will protect qualifying utilities from unnecessary additional costs which could result in unwanted rate increases and further encumber the economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kennewick Irrigation District hereby supports House Bill 2124 and Senate Bill 5964, which protect qualifying utilities from the purchase of eligible renewable energy resources or renewable energy credits not needed to serve customers' loads.


RESOLUTION 2011-35 IS HEREBY ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Kennewick Irrigation District, Benton County, Washington, at an open public meeting thereof this 18th day of October, 2011. This Resolution supersedes all previous resolutions setting compensation for Directors.



DAVID MCKENZIE, President

ABSENT

PATRICK MCGUIRE, Director



GENE HUFFMAN, Vice President



KIRK RATHBUN, Director

ABSENT

JOHN A. JAKSCH, Director