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El Dorado Water Agency General Manager to retire in June
Water Agency Resources Engineer appointed Interim General Manager

PLACERVILLE, Calif. – After more than eight years of service to the El Dorado Water Agency (EDWA), General Manager Kenneth V. Payne will be retiring, effective June 9. EDWA Water Agency Resources Engineer Rebecca Guo will serve as Interim General Manager in Payne’s stead.

Payne has served as General Manager of the El Dorado Water Agency since 2015, where his extensive accomplishments include forging partnerships with numerous local, regional, state and federal entities to collaborate on projects that support a shared vision of future resource planning and effective water management for the region; securing federal and state funding for water resource-related projects throughout the county; and successfully securing water supplies to meet current and future needs of the county.

“I am grateful to have spent the last eight years with EDWA and am honored to have been able to work with an outstanding team, dedicated to our communities and quality, effective water management,” said Payne. “I wish EDWA continued success and know the agency will be in great hands with Rebecca.”

Payne also guided the development of the 2019 Water Resources Development and Management Plan, which outlines the new policies and guidance that will serve as the cornerstones for the agency’s continued planning for El Dorado County’s water future.

“Ken has played a vital role here at EDWA,” said Lori Parlin, EDWA Board Chair and El Dorado County Supervisor. “With more than 30 years of public and private-sector experience, Ken is an expert on water policy and its interconnectivity with the economy, environment and communities we serve, and our agency is better off because of his leadership.”

Guo joined EDWA in 2023 as a Water Agency Resources Engineer and oversees a variety of water resource planning projects and programs, but has supported EDWA since 2016 on various projects, including planning for stormwater resources, drought contingency, small water system reliability, watershed management, Caldor Fire recovery, and grant application development.

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Guo has also assisted EDWA with facilitating various stakeholder meetings and forums to promote integrated water management and collaborative implementation of the 2019 Water Resources Development and Management Plan to achieve long-term water resilience and economic prosperity.

“I look forward to continuing to use my experience and knowledge in water resource management during my role as Interim General Manager,” said Guo. “Ken has been crucial in paving the way for the agency and I am eager to continue his legacy of ensuring El Dorado County has adequate water to serve our communities now and into the future.”

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About the El Dorado Water Agency

The El Dorado Water Agency celebrates more than 60 years of water resource planning and management, dedicated to ensuring that El Dorado County has adequate and affordable water to maintain economic prosperity, protect the environment, and support the rural-agriculture way of life for today and in the future. El Dorado Water Agency is a public agency created under the 1959 El Dorado County Water Agency Act.