



EID's Abercrombie Wants \$60 Million New Debt



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Greg Prada, PR Pond, Oct 5 2012

On Tuesday October 9th, at 9am while most EID ratepayers are working and unable to attend and protest, EID General Manager Jim Abercrombie will be asking the EID Board to approve an \$85 million capital improvement plan.

To pay for Abercrombie's \$85 million capital spending proposal, \$60 million of new debt will be required. At 3.6% interest, 2.5% annual principal repayment and \$1.2 million of debt fees, \$60 million new debt will add more than 8% to EID's already lofty rates.

Having passed 102% of water rate hikes for 2010-2015, EID's Directors this year ought to think first about the wallets of 38,000 regular ratepayers.

This year, EID's Directors should throw away their "rubber-stamp" of every Management spending proposal and stop blindly professing "We trust Management". A fiscally responsible board CHALLENGES Management and forces them to live within limited financial means.

This year, EID's Directors should demonstrate they recognize it is not "monopoly money" they are spending.

This year, EID's Board should start a new mantra of fiscal responsibility and live up to their "Director" name by DIRECTING General Manager Jim Abercrombie to go back to the drawing board and come back with a sharply curtailed, fiscally responsible capital spending plan....one that 38,000 regular EID ratepayers truly need and can afford.