



Imperial Irrigation District

2008-2009 FALLOWING PROGRAM Solicitation Announcement

The 2008-2009 Fallowing Program (FP) consists of a voluntary proposal process designed to yield the annual fallowed water requirements outlined in the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) water delivery schedule. This program will consist of a contract between the IID and participating landowners and/or tenants for a one-year fallowing period, during which time no water can be delivered to the contracted field.

For this solicitation, fallowing participants will be paid a set rate of \$85 per acre-foot of a field's Baseline water use history. This outline is a general description of the Fallowing Program, application deadline, and contact information, for more details see http://www.iid.com/Water_Index.php?pid=267.

Program Description

Program Purpose:

- Fulfill the annual water transfer delivery schedule to the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) and the Salton Sea mitigation delivery schedule associated with this transfer
- Manage IID's annual 3.1 million acre-foot Colorado River consumptive use cap
- Payback previous year's overuse or inadvertent overruns of Colorado River water

Eligibility Criteria:

- Only whole fields with defined boundaries at least 10 acres in size.
- Each field proposed for fallowing must have been irrigated for crop production, leaching or duck ponds the previous 3 years, accounting for the years the field was contracted for an IID Fallowing Program.
- Each field proposed must have a water use history based on the Baseline adopted by the IID Board of Directors on April 4, 2006, with the addition of a 6 acre feet per acre cap imposed. This Baseline will be determined using the average water use for each field from a 10 year running average (1997-2006 for the 2008-2009 Fallowing Program) with the maximum and minimum years eliminated from the average.
- Ability to turn off water to fields with multiple tenants.
- Multiple fields and/or tenants sharing a single headgate must have verifiable water use records.
- Charges for delivered water and water availability subject to IID's Regulation # 11 must not be delinquent.
- Field participation in IID Fallowing Programs is limited to two of every four years and if a field is in the program for two continuous years, it is not eligible for the subsequent two years.
- If a service pipe uses water from the headgate of a proposed field, the Fallowing Party must submit a written plan outlining how the service pipe needs will be accommodated and make arrangements to implement this accommodation prior to the Program start date.
- Each proposed field must remain zoned agriculture for the contracted fallowing period.
- Any Fallowing Party who has been involved in the breach of a previous Program may be deemed ineligible.

Selection and Payment Criteria:

- Water yield per acre based on the water use history baseline capped at 6 acre feet per acre
- Trend analysis using more recent water history and cropping patterns
- Field location's potential impact on environmental, operational, and maintenance costs
- Potential contract limitations and constraints due to previous water commitments
- Previous verification, mitigation, and contract compliance history with other programs
- Verification that all eligibility criteria has been met in the program and agreement
- If fewer proposals are received than necessary to yield the required amount of water, IID may choose to complete a second solicitation. **If the second solicitation requires a higher contract price, all 2008-2009 FP participants will receive the same payment rate.**

- If more proposals are received than necessary to yield the required water, a random selection process will be utilized to determine the 2008-2009 Fallowing Program participants. Those fields that are not offered contracts based on the random selection process may be rolled over into the next Fallowing Program.

Contract Provisions:

- Tenants are responsible for obtaining all landowner approvals for program participation.
- Fallowing Party will consider the impact of fallowing lands subject to a Williamson Act Contract.
- Fallowing Party shall be responsible for weed control and expense as required by Imperial County's Weed Abatement Ordinance
- Fallowing Party shall be responsible for dust control as described in the Agreement. After proof of performance, participant will be reimbursed for pre-approved dust mitigation Best Management Practices.
- Should IID implement an Equitable Distribution Plan during any portion of the Fallowing Program term, the Fallowing Party shall be responsible for conveying to IID the contracted fallowed water volume prior to receiving any payment.

Timeline and Deadlines:

- December 21, 2007** Open solicitation period begins. Upon request, annual water history data will be sent to applicants for each field proposal submitted. (Landowner signature is required by fax or mail to release data for water history requests.)
- February 1, 2008** All proposals must be received by the IID Water Manager's office no later than noon (12:00 p.m.) to be considered for the 2008-2009 Fallowing Program.
- March 24, 2008** IID will issue contracts to those landowners and/or tenants who are eligible and satisfy the criteria above. Proposals that were not selected to participate in the Fallowing Program will be notified in writing as well.
- April 16, 2008** All completed and signed contracts must be returned to the IID Water Manager's office no later than noon (12:00 p.m.) to participate in the 2008-2009 Fallowing Program.
- July 1, 2008** IID will finalize and execute all 2008-2009 Fallowing Program contracts and lock the delivery gates of participating fields.

Contact Information:

2008-2009 Fallowing Program proposal forms and related documents are available at all IID Water Division offices or can be downloaded at www.iid.com (please click on the appropriate "Fallowing" link on the Water Department page or go directly to <http://www.iid.com/Water/2008-2009FallowingProgram>). Additional questions regarding the IID Fallowing Program should be directed to the Fallowing Hotline at (760) 339-9898 or emailed to fallowingprogram@iid.com.

Return or fax completed proposals on or *before* noon February 1, 2008 to:

Mail to:
 IID - Resources Planning and Management
 Attention: 2008-2009 Fallowing Program
 333. E. Barioni Blvd.
 Imperial, CA 92251

Fax to:
 (760) 339-9121
 Attention: 2008-2009 Fallowing Program

Email to:
fallowingprogram@iid.com