

Letter to the Editor: Davis Enterprise, Jan 4, 2006

Dear Editors:

It's great that the ENTERPRISE included the SMUD annexation in its "Top 10" issues for 2005. But it's really a case of Yolo citizens and their elected leaders against PG&E, rather than SMUD vs. PG&E.

Remember, the city councils of Davis, West Sacramento, and Woodland---plus the Yolo Supes, voted UNANIMOUSLY last winter to request annexation by SMUD. Then SMUD's elected directors voted to move forward with the annexation, after exhaustive studies of the issue. The main reason is lower rates.

Gene Stille, CEO of Woodland's family-owned Nugget Markets, told the Sacramento LAFCO on Dec. 7 that Nugget will be in "hog heaven" when the annexation goes through. Mr. Stille testified that if all Nugget/Food 4 Less stores were in SMUD, the company would save \$332,000 a year and \$1.6 million over a five-year period, because SMUD charges 3.03 cents less per kWh than PG&E. "SMUD's goal is to satisfy their customers with the lowest cost power," he concluded, while "PG&E must keep their stockholders happy."

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