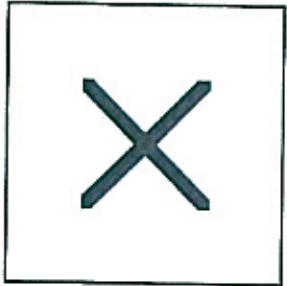


NOMINATION FORM



H. R. LABOUNTY SAFETY AWARD PROGRAM

AGENCY: East Contra Costa Irrigation District

Employee Nominated:

Name: Gary Smith

Job Classification: Operator

Reason for Nomination: See Attached Nomination

Nominated by: Patricia Corey

Signature: *Patricia A. Corey*

Date: March 5, 2009

Reviewed by:

General Manager: *Patricia A. Corey*

Date: March 5, 2009

Please attach supporting documents and/or digital photos and E-mail to:

tlofing@acwajpia.com

ACWA/JPIA
5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 200
Citrus Heights, CA 95610-7632
FAX: (916) 965-6847

Nomination for Gary Smith
East Contra Costa Irrigation District

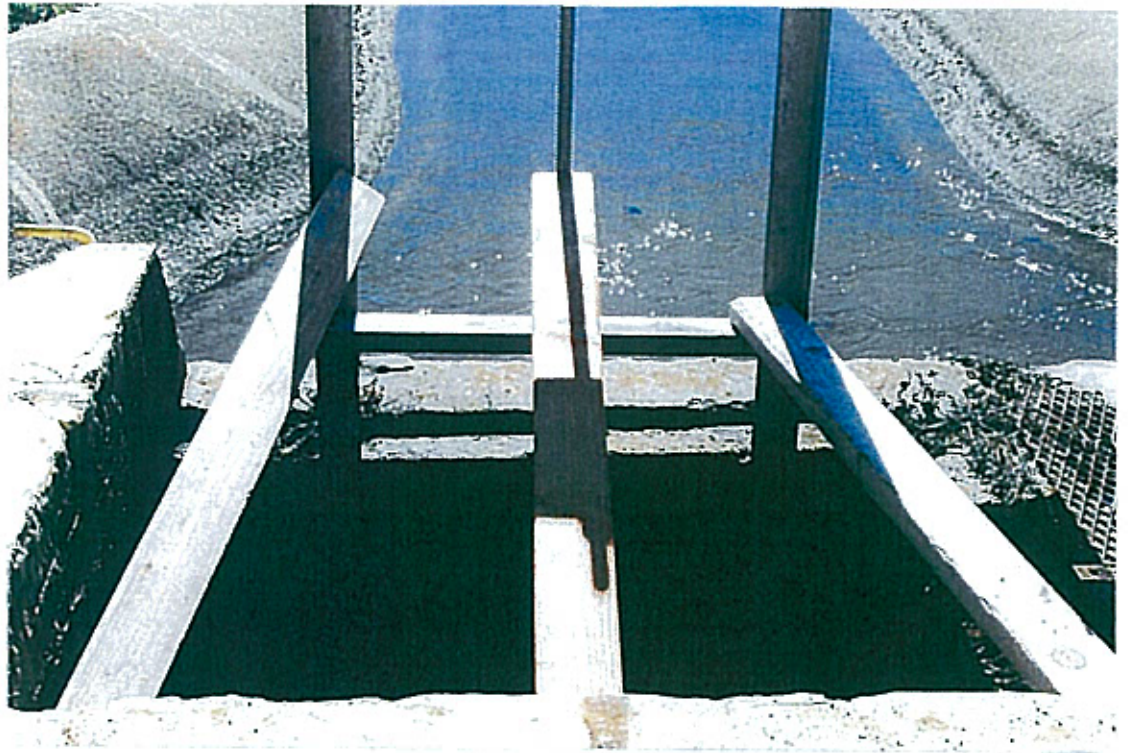
During the off-season, routine maintenance is performed on the District's main canal and lateral gates. During the removal and installation of a lateral gate, a District employee would hold the gate in place with a series of precisely cut 2x4's (see attached photos.) If the 2x4's were not precisely cut, then the gate would pull away from the headwall. The gates are extremely heavy; back injuries could occur if the gates were not adequately supported while jack-hammering out an old gate or while waiting for the cement to cure on a newly installed gate.

Gary Smith designed and fabricated a device (see photos) that adjusts to the exact size needed to hold the gate in place; it won't fall out of place and is less cumbersome - allowing additional room for the employee to move around without concern over knocking a 2x4 out of place.

This safety support device has:

- 1) saved money for the district (no more purchasing 2x4's);
- 2) saved time so our employees are more productive (no more running around buying, sizing and cutting); and
- 3) provided a safer workspace (no more back strains/sprains from holding up a heavy gate)

I encourage you to reward Mr. Smith for his efforts in designing an inexpensive and effective device making the District workplace safer and more efficient.



Before

AFTER

