



Senior Engineer Adrian Schneider (left) and Construction Inspector Chris Berg oversee work during a large project to improve the Maben Canal along Lime Kiln Road. Read the story and watch a video of a pipe inspection, [Page 2](#)

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- \* *Flash from the Past* - The Pipeline Newsletter turns 45 this month! See the front page of the first 1980 edition, [Page 15](#)

... and more

# Old meets new along Maben Canal

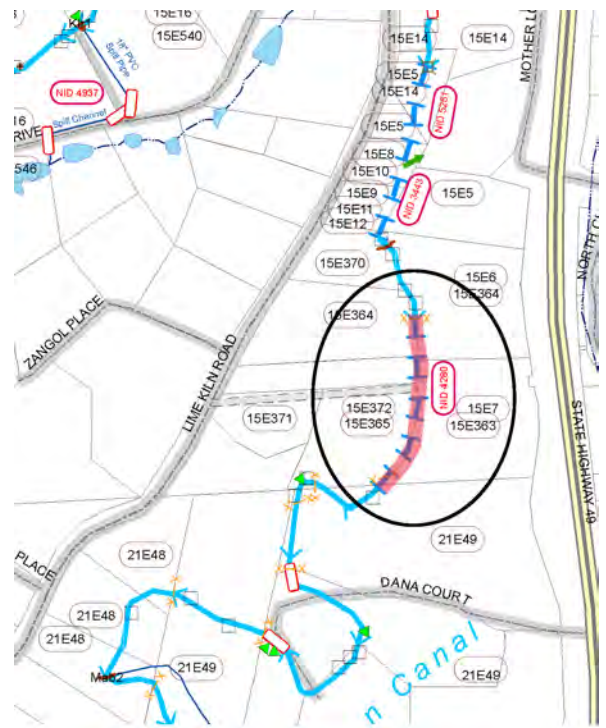
Along the Maben Canal off Lime Kiln Road, the District has installed new pipe, replacing canal to make water delivery more efficient (no leakage or evaporation), and tying into an old existing pipe.

Watch the inspection of the 39-year-old, 500-foot long 18-inch diameter steel pipe (10-gauge thickness) that is part of the Maben Canal.

[Click this link](#) to see the pipe inspection video.

Senior Engineer Adrian Schneider points out that joints every 20 feet show minor scaling, but the main pipe is very much intact. Two taps for abandoned services show the most corrosion – in the video, the marks are at 184 feet and 327 feet.

This pipe will be part of the final Phase IV of the Maben Canal project and will see approximately 20 psi of pressure when the project is completed.



## Project Summary

NID is working to improve the Maben Canal along Lime Kiln Road. This project has included the encasement of an existing canal and the enlargement of an existing siphon.

The canal is located on the backside of private properties with difficult access for maintenance. One section of the canal was undersized and did not meet downstream demands.

Roughly 600 feet of open canal was converted into an 18-inch diameter, buried pipe and a 470-foot long, 12-inch diameter siphon (pipe) was replaced with a 24-inch PVC pipe to realize the required flow capacity.

A control valve and flow-measuring flume will be added at the end of the project to provide control and measurement of flow. The project will provide uninterrupted service and lift the moratorium to allow water service for new customers.

### January Anniversaries

- Chip Close**, Director of Water Operations, 31 years, Jan. 10
- Gerry Gnech**, Equipment Operator, 23 yrs., Jan. 2
- Samuel Beaver**, Water Distribution Supervisor, 22 yrs. Jan. 6
- Shad Chittock**, Treated Water Superintendent, 22 yrs.  
Jan. 21
- Philip Goguen**, Electrical Systems Superintendent, 19 yrs.  
Jan. 3
- Timothy Rowe**, Maintenance Supervisor, 17 yrs., Jan. 7
- Jennifer Vendley**, Administrative Analyst II, 16 yrs.
- Don Bird**, Safety Analyst II, 14 yrs., Jan. 3
- Robert Graham**, Cross Connection Control Technician II,  
14 yrs., Jan. 10
- Brian Beahm**, Vegetation Control Worker II, 13 yrs., Jan. 9
- Steven Beebe**, Chief Water Treatment Operator, 10 yrs.  
Jan. 5
- Rod McGhee**, IT Analyst I, 10 yrs., Jan. 5
- Greg Jones**, Assistant General Manager, 8 yrs., Jan. 3
- Fallyn Frazier**, Customer Service Technician II, 7 yrs., Jan. 5
- Trevor Sterrett**, Engineering Technician II, 6 yrs., Jan. 22
- Curtis Campbell**, Utility Worker I, 5 yrs.
- Nicholas Green**, Utility Worker I, 5 yrs.
- Michael McCluskey**, Equipment Mechanic I, 4 yrs.
- Jennifer Murtha**, Senior Finance Assistant, 4 yrs.
- Zachary Clark-Ware**, Utility Worker I, 2 yrs.
- Brent Dickinson**, IT Technician I, 2 yrs., Jan. 9
- Heather Murphy**, Records Management Assistant, 2 yrs.

### Promotions

**Greg Callison** – promoted to Senior Storekeeper – effective 1/13/2025



Rod McGhee



Nick Green



Steve Beebe

### NID receives award for excellence in financial reporting

NID has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR).

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) granted the award for the report, which is independently audited, covering the fiscal year that ended December 31, 2023.

The certificate is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

“The ACFR award is like a gold star for the Finance Department and represents how well NID handles its financial activities, including following policies and procedures and management of reporting out to the public in order to have a clean independent annual audit,” said NID Controller Katherine Korsak. “It shows that NID has high standards for maintaining accurate records and making them easier for all to understand.”



#### *NID Finance Team*

(Front row, left to right)

Sue Langdon, Finance Assistant I

Katherine Korsak, Controller

Elizabeth Montejano, Payroll Technician

Desiree Ince, Accountant II

(Not pictured) Valerie Kinnan, Accountant II

(Back row, left to right)

Jennifer Murtha, Senior Finance Assistant

Joan Tortorici, Purchasing Supervisor

Sandra Dunlap, Director of Finance

Dianna Traylor, Sr. Finance Assistant

Cory Cyr, Budget Analyst

## In Memoriam: Jason Devlin

Jason Devlin, Senior Park Ranger, passed away from a short illness on Thursday, January 9, 2025.

Jason started with the District as a temporary worker in Recreation Department in 2019. When the Senior Park Ranger position opened in 2020, Jason did not hesitate to apply. His heart was with Scotts Flat, Jackson Meadows and the Bowman Corridor.

Jason was dependable, thorough, organized, and professional. He understood the importance of customer service. He would deal with the unpredictable nature of the position by addressing any issues head on and was always extremely fair with upset campers.

Jason was a "people person" he loved working with the public. He will be missed by his NID family, our campers and our lake users.



## Boat launches at Rollins, Scotts Flat remain temporarily closed

All boat launches at Rollins and Scotts Flat reservoirs remain closed to motorized watercraft as a precaution to prevent the spread of the highly invasive golden mussel.

The freshwater bivalves reproduce at an alarming rate, and pose a real risk to NID infrastructure if introduced into local waters. The District is awaiting direction from state officials and hopes to reopen boat ramps at the reservoirs in late January or early February.

Meanwhile, NID is developing a plan to keep the mussels out of waterways.

On Oct. 17, 2024 the California Department of Water Resources reported finding mature golden mussels at the Port of Stockton. Immediately, state officials called the situation a "significant immediate threat." Once present, the mussels' infestation can quickly cause devastating damage. The greatest risk is the mussels will be transferred by boats from other waterways.

Other districts and cities are taking action, as well. For example, East Bay Municipal Utility District has temporarily closed boat launches on its Lake Camanche, and the City of Napa has closed the launch and banned boats on Lake Hennessey. Also, the Bureau of Reclamation and Solano County Water District have implemented a 30-day quarantine for all boats entering Lake Berryessa.



Golden mussels colonize a water pipe at a hydroelectric plant in Brazil in 2021.

## Maintenance transforms into a chain gang



As part of a January safety meeting, the Maintenance Department took the serious matter of skills needed for winter driving and had some fun. The friendly competition challenged six teams; which one could properly chain up a truck the fastest? The winners were the Welding and Mechanics team. Congratulations!

The victors are picture below (left to right): Will Greist (Equipment Service Worker), Josh Pratt (Welder II), Robert Stice (Senior Welder), Ryan Pfile (Equipment Mechanic I), and Mike McClusky (Equipment Mechanic I).



The teams in action (left to right): Eric Lauer (Equipment Operator) and the Raw Water team, Shawn Droivold (Utility Worker) and Chris Dunn (Utility Worker), Brian Beahm (Vegetation Control Worker), and the Welding and Mechanics team.





## Clear Creek School students learn about water

An NID team of experts hosted two assemblies at Clear Creek Elementary School off McCourtney Road to talk to more than 200 students. The school recently put in a garden, and they wanted to educate their students about water and water conservation.

Assistant General Manager Greg Jones spoke about NID as a whole, where our water comes from and the watershed.

Water Superintendent Nathan Wasley teaches students about the District's canal system.

Matt Halverson spoke about our distribution system, leaks in the canals, how we fix them, and keeping the water flowing during winter months.

Water Efficiency Technician Kaycee Strong finished the presentations by talking about conservation, and how not only they can conserve in their home, but how they can save our water in their garden. Examples are using drip irrigation, mulch in the garden, checking for leaks, and using an irrigation timer.

"Ultimately, it was a great morning. The kids were engaged, they asked a lot of questions, and seemed excited to learn about NID water," Kaycee said. "Most, if not all, of the kids have visited one of NID's reservoirs, so we were able to bring it full circle that the water they see at their home and school comes from the same place they camped or swam at last summer."

The first assembly was for 5th-8th graders. The second was designed for younger TK-4th graders. Each class was given a bag of NID "swag" as a reminder of what they learned during the 45-minute presentation.

We also provided a paper titled "Today I Learned..." and asked the teachers to have their student color or write about one thing they learned during the presentation.

Assistant Water Superintendent Matt Halverson takes a question from a student.



## What's there to say? Philip's new purse is electrifying

At his department holiday party, Electrical Systems Superintendent Philip Goguen won a special white elephant gift: a beautiful faux fur purse. It was quite the prize.

Here's the photo (see right). Let's help him with a caption:

- \* "Who needs a tool belt when you've got a purse this stylish? Looks like this electrician's circuits just got upgraded to fabulous!"
- \* "Who needs a toolbox when you've got a power purse? This spark of holiday style is truly electrifying!"
- \* "Looks like he's sparking joy and circuits this Christmas—who needs a toolbox when you've got a statement piece like this?"
- \* "Who needs extra outlets when you've got a purse that powers up your holiday style? This electrician's got shocking good taste!"
- \* "Looks like this spark is lit! Nothing says 'merry and bright' like a white purse for the guy who keeps the lights on!"
- \* "Serving high voltage and high fashion this Christmas—because even electricians know a fabulous purse is the ultimate power move"



## Short Videos featuring employees



- \* E. George Treatment Plant tour (5:02 minutes)
- \* NID Rex Canal automated main gate (1:55 min.)
- \* NID Cascade Canal orifice change (2:16 min.)
- \* South Yuba Canal repairs (2:52 min.)
- \* Anatomy of a Powerhouse (1:41 min.)
- \* Surveying Dams for Safety (2:07 min.)
- \* Dutch Flat Flume Repair (2:26 min.)



## Service Awards

### 10 Years

#### **Michael Page**

Hydroelectric Maintenance Technician I

07/07/2014

Michael was hired as a Utility Worker for the Grass Valley Maintenance department, worked his way through the ranks and recently moved into the Hydroelectric Department as a Maintenance Technician.

Michael is very versatile in his skills and always comes to work with a smile and willing to lend a hand. He is proud of what he accomplishes each day and knows that his efforts are appreciated.



#### **Richard Dills**

Electrical Systems Technician II - 08/18/2014

Ten years ago, Rick was laying in a dirty crawl space making up an electrical box when he got a call from NID's HR department offering him a job.

He has excelled at all aspects of the position, including designing and installing electrical systems both large and small. He also performs mechanical repairs of pumps and motors; installs generator connections during PSPS; brings additional stations into the SCADA network and makes the SCADA systems better for the Operators; and works with large scale computer networking replacements and makes Extensive PLC Modifications and Replacements.

And Lights... Lots and lots of lights. Rick also still gets to lay in dirty crawl spaces from time to time.



#### **Kenneth Hugg**

Water Treatment Operator II - 08/25/2014

Ken was initially hired in 2014 as an Equipment Operator. He accepted a temporary assignment to help the treatment crew, and that led to a full-time position of Water Treatment Operator II in 2019. Ken has continued to study Water Distribution and Treatment and received his Grade 3 certification in both. He is currently working towards his Grade 4 certification in Water Treatment.

Ken is a very dedicated worker and is continually relied on as the "go to" guy when extra night call shifts need to be covered.

Fun Fact about Ken: He spent six years working in Hawaii as the Beverage Director for the Hilton Resort.



## Service Awards

### 10 Years

#### **Eric Lauer**

Equipment Operator - 08/18/2014

Eric Lauer came to the District in August of 2014 with a strong construction background. He worked his way through the Utility Worker steps and promoted to an Equipment Operator in late 2018. He has shown great responsibility as an Equipment Operator on the Nevada County Canal Maintenance crew. Eric's day-to-day work includes running many different pieces of equipment large and small. Eric handles many large-scale projects, one of which was rehabbing the Tarr Canal on Pilot Peak Lane.

Eric and his wife Kelly have two children, together they have a passion for the great outdoors including hunting, fishing, and snowmobiling.



#### **Jeffrey Farmer**

Hydro Electrical Machinist II - 10/14 2014

Jeff was hired as an equipment mechanic and is now working as a Hydro Electrical Machinist. He helps to keep the turbines turning and has been involved with some of the largest projects, from large valve replacements to protective relay upgrades.

Jeff's most memorable moment at work was the recent storm when there was feet of snow at the hydro headquarters. Jeff lives the farthest away from the headquarters, yet he was the first one to make it to work the first day of the storm, cutting through many downed trees just to get out of his driveway in the dark.



#### **Joshua Hynie**

Water Treatment Operator III - 10/06/2014

Josh was initially hired on with the District in 2014 as a Utility I worker. He received his Grade 2 Distribution License and was promoted to Water Distribution Operator on the Nevada County Routes.

Josh earned his Grade 2 Treatment License and was promoted to Water Treatment Operator in 2019. Josh has excelled in this role and continued to advance through the Water Treatment series. After receiving his Grade 3 Treatment License, Josh was promoted Water Treatment Plant Operator III. Recently, he passed the State test for his Grade 4 certification.

Prior to working at NID, Josh worked as an EMT on an ambulance also for Cal Fire as a Hot Shot from 2009 to 2014.

Fun Fact about Josh: He attended Oxford University where he studied Art History in 2008.



## Service Awards

### 10 Years

#### **Tricia Panock**

Business Service Technician I

11/10/2014

Tricia started her career at the District in customer service, working her way up to Senior Customer Service Representative.

In July of 2024, Tricia became NID's Business Services Technician and the face of the District for so many of the District's programs and processes, both for the general public and developer/commercial projects.

She is well organized, has great customer service skills, is easily approachable and is always willing to provide support/help as needed, to both the public as well as NID staff.

When not at work, Tricia spends time line dancing with fellow NID employees or running around to various sporting events as a proud mom.



#### **Danny Granholm**

Chief Water Treatment Operator II

12/01/2014

Danny was initially hired on with the District in 2013 as a Temporary Utility worker. He was a standout employee and was quickly offered a job as a Water Treatment Plant Operator in 2014.

Danny quickly moved up the ladder through Senior Plant Operator and then on to Chief Plant Operator in 2019.

Prior to NID, Danny owned his own powder coating business. In his downtime, Danny loves cheering on his grandchildren at football games and cheerleading events, spending days fishing on his boat, or heading out on hunting adventures with his dog, Pru.



## Service Awards

### 15 Years

#### **Andy Browning**

Hydroelectric Plant Operator I - 07/20/2009

Andy started with the District July 20th 2009 as a Utility Worker and worked for 3 years on the raw water crew, assisting the Spray crew when needed.

In 2012 Andy moved to the treated water service crew where he worked for about 7 years.

In 2018 Andy promoted to the Cross Control Connection Technician in the Operations Department. In that role, Andy tested and maintained NIDs growing number of backflow and cross connection devices.

In March of 2024, Andy joined the Hydroelectric Department as a Hydroelectric Plant Operator.



#### **Gene Presley**

Senior Water Distribution Operator - 11/17/2009

Gene Presley has dedicated 15 years to the District, steadily advancing through the ranks from Water Distribution Operator to Senior Water Distribution Operator. Over the years, he has demonstrated his versatility by managing multiple routes spanning Nevada County to Placer County.

Most recently, Gene has taken on a leadership role, overseeing and assisting with the operations of the flushing crew.

Fun fact: Gene loves staying active by playing softball and basketball. When he's not on the field or court, he cherishes spending quality time with his daughter, joining in on activities she enjoys the most.



## Service Awards

### 20 Years

#### **Coby McCoy**

Water Treatment Supervisor - 07/26/2004

Coby was hired on with the District in 2004 as a Utility Worker in the Placer Yard. He was promoted to Equipment Service Worker in 2005 and moved up to the Grass Valley Yard.

He became a Treatment Plant Operator in 2009 and climbed through the ranks as a Senior Operator, and then on to Chief Plant Operator in 2016. Coby was offered the position of Water Treatment Supervisor in 2023, overseeing the operations of all six of NID's Water Treatment Plants, as well as the associated pump stations and storage tank sites, and supervising a staff of nine Plant Operators.

Coby stays incredibly busy, juggling these responsibilities and ensuring his three children attend their gymnastics competitions across the state while also raising farm animals for FFA show events. When he needs some R&R, he can be found with his family on Rollins Lake wake-surfing on their boat.



#### **Matt Halvorson**

Assistant Water Superintendent - 10/25/2004

Matt has been a dedicated member of the District for 20 years. He began his career in the Maintenance Department in Placer County before transitioning to the Operations Department.

Over the years, Matt has risen through the ranks, starting as a Water Distribution Operator and advancing to his current role as Assistant Water Superintendent. He now oversees our backflow program, where he has excelled in ensuring the District remains fully compliant with state regulations.

Fun fact about Matt: He is happiest when he's out camping or cheering on his three kids at their sports events. Being there for their big moments is something he truly treasures.



#### **Doug Roderick**

Director of Engineering - 11/22/2004

Doug was promoted to Director of Engineering in 2019 after serving many years as an NID senior engineer.

Through the years, his experience has involved project management, construction management and design of treated- and raw water structures, pipelines, pump stations and conveyance systems. Doug has participated in and managed many of NID's larger projects.

These include Combie Phase I Pipeline, which required replacement of concrete flume with 2 miles of 96-inch Reinforced Concrete Pressure Pipe, and the Bear River Siphon Replacement Project that included the installation of 54-inch welded steel aerial inverted pipe crossing of the Bear River.

After 20 years at NID, Doug will be retiring on Feb. 21, and he and his wife will be moving to Montana to build a new home.



## Service Awards

### 25 Years

#### **Tony Moscini**

Construction Inspector II - 08/16/1999

Tony has spent a significant amount of his career within the Engineering Department. His first job in engineering was as a drafter, utilizing AutoCAD to develop design drawings for the engineers. In May 2007 he became an inspector. This position is critical to ensure new facilities are being constructed to NID design standards so that they operate as designed.

Tony has worked on hundreds of jobs, from developer projects to very large capital projects. Some of those are: the E. George Treatment Plant Expansion, Banner-Taylor and Alta Sierra storage tank replacements and the Siphon Lane Raw Water Pump station that was used all summer long during the PG&E Spaulding outage.



#### **Cameron Price**

Maintenance Superintendent - 08/23/1999

Cameron started with NID in August 1999 as a Utility Worker I and was promoted to an Equipment Operator within three years of employment. Cameron held the Equipment Operator position until June 2014 when he was promoted into the Maintenance Supervisor position.

In August 2016 Cameron was promoted to the Maintenance Superintendent position due to his vast amount of experience in all divisions of the Maintenance Department. The Maintenance Superintendent is the highest rank in the Maintenance department field personnel ladder and Cameron is a vital part of the Maintenance management team.



#### **Ken Copher**

Recreation Facility Superintendent - 12/13/1999

Ken started with the District back on December 13, 1999, as a Utility Worker. In 2004 he was promoted to Maintenance Crew Supervisor and in October of 2020, he settled into his new role as the District's Recreation Facility Superintendent.

Ken's 25 years of leadership and dedication have been instrumental in the growth of both the Maintenance and Recreation Department. His influence and ability to train and guide staff is truly remarkable. The relationships he has maintained within the District and with outside agencies have helped to move jobs and projects forward.

Thank you Ken, for your dedication, passion and exemplifying the District's values in your everyday work.



# PIPELINE

A newsletter for the employees of the Nevada Irrigation District

Volume I, Number I January, 1980

## BORLIK IS \$25 WINNER

Theresa Borlik, clerk-typist in the Operations Department has been awarded a \$25 check for her suggestion that this employee newsletter be named "The NID Pipeline."

June Evans, Operations Department secretary, was given a special \$10 award for her creative suggestion, "NID-Bits," which will be used as a column head for miscellaneous news.

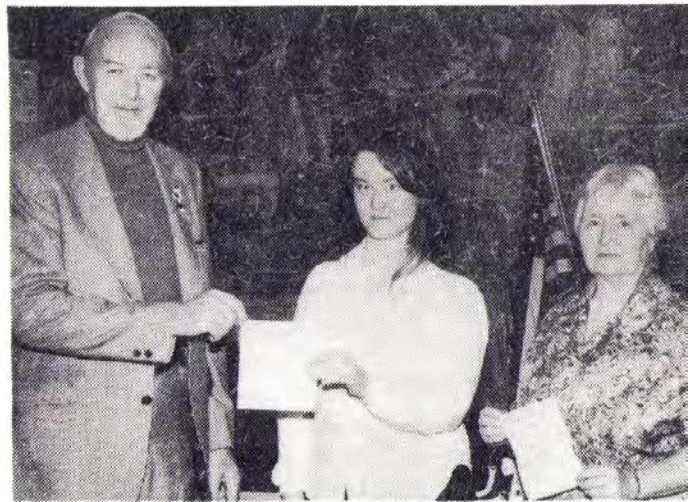
"When anybody wins anything around here," Evans explained, "they're supposed to buy treats for everyone else. It's become traditional whether you win a football pool or whatever."

"Pipeline" was actually suggested by three employees whose names were tossed into a hat and Borlik's drawn. Submitting the same name were Ray S. Krutiak of the warehouse and board secretary Dorothy Miller.

In all, 15 different employees submitted 23 different names.

Honorable mention goes to Jerry Wasley for The NID Bull Sheet, Larry Brown for NID Waterways, C. Daryl Matlock for The Faucet, Carl Pinter for NID Watershed and NID Flume, Larry Traylor for The Gushing Faucet, Rosemarie Daugherty for Channel News, Watertower, NID Tributary and Overflow, Betty Kennedy for PSI News and Hi-Lites from NID and Jim Chatigny for Canal Chatter, Down the Flume, Along the Waterways, Thru the Pipes and Over the Dams.

After serious consideration of Wasley's "The NID Bull Sheet," the board members finally decided the name might be just a little too racy.



District Manager Fred Bandy presents pair of checks to Theresa Borlik and June Evans

## The Pipeline Newsletter turns 45

The NID employee newsletter was first published as a 4-page edition in January 1980. The lede paragraph announced: "Say hello to the first issue of the NID Pipeline, a monthly newsletter for the district's 142 employees. It's designed to be a people-oriented publication about you -- who you are, what you do and what it means."

"The purpose of the newsletter, as its name suggests, is to be a pipeline for communication between the different groups who make up the total NID team."

Through the years, the newsletter has expanded with pages, and now also includes NID project descriptions and important District news.

The call for employee action remains the same, however. The first edition noted: "Everyone is invited to contribute to the newsletter." That remains the same; your story ideas and photos of work or family are welcome.

# Meetings & Events



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Wednesday, February 12, 2025  
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Wednesday, February 26, 2025  
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Wednesday, March 12, 2025  
NID Main Office, Grass Valley

\*\* Dates subject to change. For updated dates, see [nidwater.com](http://nidwater.com)

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