

For Immediate Release: June 6, 2025 **Media Contact:** Alicia Rockwell, Chief Public Affairs Officer <u>Communications@bdgrowers.com</u> 916-446-8354

Blue Diamond Growers Announces Plans to Streamline its Operations into its Salida and Turlock Manufacturing Plants

The Decision Will Result in Exiting and Selling the Historic Plant in Midtown Sacramento

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Blue Diamond Growers, a more than century-old agricultural cooperative with nearly 3,000 members, was founded to ensure the long-term success of small, multi-generational almond farmers and their families in California.

With that mission in mind, Blue Diamond has decided to wind down and exit its midtown Sacramento plant. The cooperative will transfer most of its manufacturing operations to its existing facilities in Turlock and Salida, California.

"Our Sacramento team's work ethic and incredible drive have enabled us to build Blue Diamond into what it is today," said Kai Bockmann, president and CEO of Blue Diamond Growers. "However, the challenges of running a plant from these historical buildings has become too costly and inefficient. Streamlining our manufacturing plants is the right business move to further strengthen our market-leading position and bring increased value to our grower members."

Bockmann said he met with the Sacramento plant members this morning and shared that the move will begin later this year when roughly 10% of plant employees will exit. The move will then take place in phases during the next 18 to 24 months. An estimated 600 team members will be impacted.

"This is a significant decision as it affects our valued team members. We couldn't ask for a better group of people. That's what makes it so difficult. Even though most employees will not leave this year, we want to be transparent and tell our people as soon as possible. We are committed to putting in the energy, time and resources to help our impacted team members," said Bockmann.

Blue Diamond confirmed that they will provide incentives to stay during the transition, as well as severance and outplacement services for all impacted positions while offering some team members an opportunity to work in other locations.

Bockmann said Blue Diamond remains committed to California, and its corporate office will remain in Sacramento. The cooperative believes there are many opportunities for prospective investors interested in developments and improvements to their 50+ acre site close to downtown Sacramento.

The transfer of manufacturing to the Central Valley puts Blue Diamond Growers' processing operations in proximity to many of its farmer-owners and enhances its footprint in the region. The cooperative is well positioned to further advance its market-leading brands at home and abroad, as well as the legacy of its nearly 3,000 almond farmer families.

About Blue Diamond Growers®

Blue Diamond Growers is the world's leading almond cooperative representing nearly 3,000 of California's almond growers. Established in 1910, it created the California almond industry and opened world markets for almonds. Blue Diamond is dedicated to delivering the benefits of almonds around the world and does so by providing high-quality almonds, almond ingredients, and branded products. Headquartered in Sacramento, the company employs approximately 1,400 people throughout its processing plants, receiving stations and gift shops. To learn more about Blue Diamond Growers, visit www.BlueDiamond.com and follow the company on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.