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Remote Monitoring and Control of Irrigation Pumps for Energy, Water, Labor and Cost Savings

Many farming operations expend a significant amount of time and labor monitoring the irrigation pumps on the farm. In many cases the irrigation pumps are located in remote areas that are several miles apart and also at a significant distance from the farm shop or headquarters. During the irrigation season, one or more employees will spend several hours traveling to the irrigation pumps to start them, shut them off or to just make sure they are still running. A system that provides remote monitoring and/or control of irrigation pumps is being used in the Mississippi Delta to address the situation described above. This paper will report how this remote monitoring system can improve irrigation water management and result in labor and cost savings while conserving energy and water resources.

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