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El Toro Water District Recycled Water Expansion Project

The El Toro Water District (ETWD) is commencing construction of their Recycled Water (RW) Expansion Project. This project, with an estimated construction cost of $30 million ($37 million total project cost), will include a tertiary treatment plant which reduces the requirement for imported purchased water, 900 acre-feet per year of converted potable demands, 219 converted meters, and more than 19 miles of pipeline. The purpose of the project is to provide economically efficient and environmentally responsible recycled water for outdoor use, preserve high-quality drinking water resources, implement ETWD strategic objectives, and facilitate the increase of recycled water use in California.

The RW expansion project has 2 major components; the tertiary treatment plant and the new recycled water distribution system. The tertiary treatment plant, design by CH2M Hill, includes a 3.3 MGD filtration system, a 2.4 MG reservoir, a disinfection system, and two recycled water pump stations. The distribution system, designed by TetraTech, includes over 100,000 feet of 4-20 inch diameter pipe. The construction of this project is being funded through Proposition 50 grant funds ($28.6M), a State Revolving Fund loan ($28.6M), and ETWD dedicated reserves ($4.0M). Because of funding deadlines, an aggressive schedule was set in place, with construction completion in 2014 and user conversions complete in 2016.

The distribution system has been the biggest challenge in the project. With more than 100,000 feet of new recycled water pipeline, the distribution system is divided into three service areas, including the East, West, and North areas. The East system includes the residential area east of Laguna Woods. The North system includes areas north of Ridge Route Drive. The largest system is the West, including 65,000 feet of pipeline. More than 200 water meters will be converted to recycled water, including 145 in Laguna Woods Village. Approximately 900 acre-feet of recycled water will replace imported potable water for outdoor use.

Other major challenges related to the project include engineering design capacity and hydraulics, construction management, funding, easements (56), onsite conversions and retrofits, construction mitigation, and public outreach.

With these challenges, public outreach and stakeholder communication was necessary for the success of the project. ETWD implemented a District-wide direct mail campaign, is setting up a project-specific website and phone line to keep residents informed. The website contains a “smart map”
El Toro Water District Recycled Water Expansion Project

color-coded to show residents the progress of the project. ETWD is also involved in local speaker’s bureaus, including HOAs, community service clubs, and monthly TV presentations in Laguna Woods Village. Social media outlets, e-newsletters, and door hangers are also being used to communicate information to residents of the District.

Final design of both the pipeline distribution system and treatment plant are in progress with separate construction contracts being awarded this year. Environmental documentation was completed by Dudek and approved in June 2012. Construction of the Recycled Water Expansion Project is expected to be completed by the end of 2014, with the user site conversions complete in 2016.

For more information of this project please visit the ETWD website at http://www.etwd.com or contact Dennis Cafferty, Director of Operation and Engineering at 949.837.7050.

2013 WateReuse California Annual Conference

The WateReuse Annual Conference, which will be held at the Portola Hotel and Spa in Monterey, California from March 17-19, is the premier statewide conference devoted to sustaining water supplies through water recycling and desalination. The conference is designed for individuals, organizations, and agencies that are associated with or interested in the design, management, operation and use of water recycling and desalination facilities and projects in California. The conference will feature technical presentations, educational workshops, a technical tour, receptions, an awards luncheon, the annual Gordon Cologne Breakfast, a plenary session about direct potable reuse and an exhibit hall.

Special rates have been secured for conference attendees at the hotel. Please refer to the WateReuse California Annual Conference when making your reservation. All rooms are booked on first-come, first-served basis. So hurry rates will go up after the Advance Registration Deadline on March 4th.

For more information or to register for this event, please visit https://www.watereuse.org/conferences/california/13

CII Recycled Water Use Workshop

WateReuse Industrial Reuse Committee is presenting one-day workshops on how to maximize recycled water use in cooling and manufacturing and overcoming challenges of this resource. This workshop is intended for businesses, utilities, and consultants to gather information on how we can assist each other to improve the reliability of our local water supplies. Fee for the workshop is $175. Registrater at www.watereuse.org/conferences/california/industrial.

Visit us online at www.watereuse.org

DO’s & DON’Ts

DO plant appropriate trees, shrubs, groundcover, and turf suitable for their environment.

DON’T plant trees, shrubs, groundcover, or grasses that are not suitable for its intended location and environment.

This section is courtesy of Dave Blythe from Moulton Niguel Water District.
Legislative-Regulatory Issues Update

2012 Year in Review

2012 proved to be a busy year in legislation. The following is a recap of several bills that WaterReuse followed throughout the year.

AB1615 Biocreamation– Bill allows for new form of biocremation, a “green”, eco-friendly alternative to the traditional cremation, in which through an alkaline and water solution human remains are made into a contaminant-free ash. Bill was held in committee August 16, 2012.

AB1750 Rain Water Capture Act– Bill authorizes residential, commercial, and governmental facilities to install, maintain and operate rainwater capture systems to irrigate local area reducing the potable water demand. Bill was signed by the Governor on September 25, 2012.

AB2230 Recycled Water use in car washes– The bill would require in-bay car washes to install, use, and maintain a water recycling system that would reuse at least 60% of the wash or used recycled water for at least 60% of its rinse water. Bill was signed by the Governor on September 25, 2012.

AB2398 Water Recycling – The WaterReuse sponsored bill to revise and consolidate those and other provisions related to recycled water and make other conforming changes to existing law was pulled by the author on June 7, 2012 for re-introduction during the 2013 legislative session.

Coming up in 2013 Legislation

2013 WaterReuse Legislative Proposal – With a similar objective to AB2398, this legislation will consolidate and simplify recycled water statutes, acknowledge recycled water as resource and not a waste, and recognize advances in treatment technologies such as indirect potable reuse. Also would identify barriers to expanding recycled water including spill reporting, incidental runoff, storm induce overflows, raw water augmentation and potable reuse, Title 17/22 issues and fees.

SB36 Safe, Clean, Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act 2012 – Reduce water bond.


AB21 Safe Drinking Water Small Community Grant – Allows smaller communities to pay annual fee instead of interest.

SB4 – Hydraulic Fracturing – Adopt regulation by 2015, require disclosure and reporting.

For more information please contact Raymond Jay, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, at rjay@mwdh2o.com

Chapter Members

PUBLIC AGENCIES
California Department of Public Health
Irvine Ranch Water District
Mesa Consolidated Water District
Metropolitan Water District of So. California
Orange County Sanitation District
Orange County Water District
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
South Coast Water District
South Orange County Wastewater Authority
El Toro Water District

ASSOCIATES
Black & Veatch
Carollo Engineers
CH2M Hill
DDB Engineering, Inc.
Dudek
GHD
HDR
Lee & Ro, Inc.
Malcolm Pirnie
MWH
Nalco Company
PACE
Phoenix Civil Engineerin, Inc.
Psomas
RBF Consulting
RMC Water & Environment
TestAmerica
Tetra Tech

Chapter Officers

Mark Tettemer, President
Irvine Ranch Water District
tettemer@irwd.com

John Thornton, Vice President
Psomas
jthornton@psomas.com

Scott Lynch, Secretary/Treasurer
RMC Water and Environment
slynch@rmcwater.com

Scott Goldman, Chapter Trustee
El Toro Water District
sgoldman@rmcwater.com

DO’s & DON’Ts

DO maintain all water systems to ensure safe and efficient operations.

DON’T irrigate when the public is in the immediate vicinity.

This section is courtesy of Dave Blythe from Moulton Niguel Water District.

Mark Your Calendars!

NEXT Chapter Meeting on February 21, 2013:
Trabuco Canyon Water District
32003 Dove Canyon Dr.
Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679
11:30 - 1:30pm

We are looking for volunteers to host chapter meetings. Conference call capability is a plus.
Please contact
Mark Tettemer if you are interested.

We’d like to extend a special to thank you to our past meeting hosts!