



December 19, 2015

**Dear Water Environment Research Foundation and WaterReuse Members and Subscribers,**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Water Environment Research Foundation and WaterReuse, we wanted to share some exciting news about the future of our organizations.

The Boards of Directors of the Water Environment Research Foundation and WaterReuse Research Foundation have unanimously agreed to take the steps necessary to merge and integrate. The Board of Directors of the WaterReuse Association also fully endorses the proposed plan to merge. The first step of the merger was to appoint Melissa Meeker as the Executive Director of the Water Environment Research Foundation. As Executive Director, she will work closely with the Boards of Directors to ensure the merger is completed as efficiently and quickly as possible.

We recognize and value the history and respective missions of the organizations, and believe that merging will create synergies, reduce future water research redundancy, further the evolution toward a unified voice for water, and increase the value proposition for our members by enhancing and leveraging investments.

Moreover, the merger has the opportunity to strengthen the value of water that was historically used only once. To date, both organizations conduct research in a clearly-defined and complementary niche. WaterReuse focuses on water reuse and desalination, while the Water Environment Research Foundations focuses on resource recovery and water quality impacts from wastewater and stormwater. Together, we can grow the movement toward One Water.

The water industry is currently at a critical juncture as it relates to acceptance and implementation of reuse – driven by demand, environmental needs, and the creation of a local, sustaining water supply. With the consolidation of the research organizations, the WaterReuse Association will play an increasingly critical role in advancing research-based policy that turns scientific discovery into

common-sense laws and regulations for water reuse and resource recovery, and in helping establish the research needs of the industry.

We are fully committed to ensuring the interests and needs of the membership of all organizations remain at the forefront of decisions made throughout the merger process. As such, we appreciate your guidance and support as we move forward and welcome your input throughout the process. We encourage you to reach out to Melissa or any of the Board members to share your thoughts, support and concerns and we are committed to keeping you up to date as the merger progresses.

Thank you for your support. Our best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy holiday season for you and yours.

Kevin Shafer, Chair Water Environment Research Foundation  
Doug Owen, Chair WateReuse Research Foundation  
Guy Carpenter, President WateReuse Association

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