

Location: Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

Address: Joint Administrative Offices
1955 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601

Purpose: Bi-Monthly Meeting

Date and Time: February 14, 2023 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Distribution: Los Angeles WaterReuse Association Chapter Members and Supporters

Below is a summary of the highlight from the February 2023 bimonthly member meeting of the Los Angeles Chapter of the WaterReuse Association.

The presentations from this meeting can be found at:
<http://www.watereuse.org/sections/california/losangeles/meetings>

1. Host & Technical Presentation: Musings of Recycled Water Guru: Lessons Learned from 41 Years in the Recycled Water Industry (Earl Hartling/formerly LACSD)

Earl Hartling, former Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) Water Recycling Coordinator, discussed his many years of experience in the water recycling industry, changes in public perspective throughout the years, and the lessons learned.

Earl discussed the history of water recycling in Los Angeles County. When considering the effluent produced in Los Angeles County, there are three possible endpoints: ocean discharge, recycled but not reused, and beneficial reuse. For about the last 30 years there has been a decrease in effluent discharged to the ocean. Although some of the decrease attributes to the decrease in total effluent produced, the continual growth of recycled effluent and beneficial reuse also plays a significant role. After 2010, the recycled but not reused effluent began to decline, while the beneficial reuse of effluent continues to grow. Although groundwater recharge has been the primary use of beneficially used recycled water, there is an upward trend in volume of treated wastewater used for direct reuse with exponential increase in number of reuse sites available, both pilot and permanent facilities.

From years of experience in the recycled water industry, Earl's advice and lessons learned are the following: Lesson # 1 - form coalitions, Lesson # 2 - don't back down, and Lesson # 3 - no idea is a good idea until it's the boss's idea. Lesson # 1 promotes a collaborative approach, which means finding people with mutual goals and perspectives. Finding individuals or groups that can help make things happen, understand the problem, and can help formulate solutions. In effort to accomplish the county's goal, Earl was part of a group of water recycling professionals called the Los Angeles County Reclaimed Water Advisory Committee (LACRWAC). The committee was composed of several water recycling professionals and enthusiasts including George Ohara from the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation, Bahman Sheikh from the LA Office of Water Recycling, Hoover Ng from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Don Froelich from the City of Glendale, Jim Van Camp from City of Long Beach, Leighton Fong from the City of Burbank, Marsha Eubanks from Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, Tom Love from Central and West Basin Municipal Water Districts, Ray Mohktari from the Municipal Water District, and Feroze Kanga from the Department of Water Resources.

Earl's Lesson # 2 goes back to the 1990s during a time when the efforts towards the beneficial reuse of recycled water resulted in opposition from the public and certain entities. During this time, Miller Brewing Company coined the phrase from "toilet to tap", which was quickly adopted by the newspapers. This happened during a time when the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts planned

to expand their groundwater replenishment program. The Miller Brewing Company strongly opposed using treated wastewater for drinking water and took its concerns to the Regional Water Quality Control Board for further study on whether reclaimed water was safe before the projects continued operation. However, despite the setback, water recycling professionals like Earl adopted Lesson # 2 and did not back down. Earl and the Sanitation Districts continued their journey because it was almost certain that recycled water was the future. Years later, looking for opportunities and locations to recycle water, Earl and his team came up with the idea of pumping advanced treated recycled water to as far as main San Gabriel Basin. This was something Earl pushed for quite a while because he knew there was a lot of empty space that allowed for the opportunity of building an advanced treatment plant. As a result, the plan came into fruition a few years ago as the PURE Water Southern California project, which would bring recycled water through the central basin for groundwater recharge in the west coast basin. Not giving up lead to a demonstration facility of 0.5 MGD. After piloting, the plan is to produce about 150 MGD and about 170,000 acre-feet per year of recycled water.

Earl was certain the plan would pan out because the General Manager of the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) was behind it, as well as the General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles Sanitation Districts. Aside from that, the Governor of California also supported the effort. The support and decisions of all the big bosses ties in Lesson # 3 of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts water recycling history. Although it will take an estimated 8 years for the project to be completed, it will happen. It will follow the model of the groundwater replenishment system in Orange County, which learned their lessons from the ill-fated miller brewery controversy and LA County will have a steady, reliable, locally controlled drought proof supply of recycled water for groundwater replenishment.

2. Updates (*Raymond Jay*)

California Legislation

- Water Supply Conditions: It has been raining plenty, which has improved supply conditions. All of California is no longer in the red zone. The state water project is now at 30%, which is about allocation, 575,000 acre-feet of water. This reduces the worries on the health and safety of the water supply.
- CA Legislative Calendar: the next biggest date for the legislative calendar is February 17, which is the last day for bill introduction. Plenty of bills will be coming in, which means quick review is required. However, bills can still change. Another important date is June 15, which is the last day to pass the budget. Last year CA had a surplus, most likely not as much.
<http://assembly.ca.gov/legislativedeadlines>.
- Water Legislation of Interest: WaterReuse California now has a web site that tracks legislation.
- California Legislative Information website: link to research bills, their status, and detailed description. Use key words to find bills. Link to web page below:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billSearchClient.xhtml?session_year=20232024&keyword=water%20recycling&house=Both&author=All&lawCode=All
- WaterReuse Legislative/Regulations meeting: Next one is on February 24. It is open to all WaterReuse members. Discussion includes the latest of where we are with water reuse in California. The main issue discussed in the last meeting was funding. Jennifer West, head of WaterReuse California, stated that her biggest legislative priority this year is getting

appropriations for money for the upcoming year. She is aware of possible budget issues. There was \$210 million allocated for recycled water but appropriation is required so that it could come into the funding sources. MWD has been lucky enough to get an earmark for \$80 million for a regional recycled water program. City of San Diego also received \$50 million in funding for Pure Water San Diego. City of Ontario received \$10 million for a water recycling project.

2022 Water Legislation Outcome

- SB 1157 (Hertzberg): Hertzberg: Urban water use objectives: indoor residential water use; WRCA = neutral after amendments; Approved by Governor & Chapter 9/28/22
- SB 991 (Newman): Public Contracts: progressive design-build: local agencies; WRCA = Support; Chaptered 9/02/22
- SB 230 (Portantino): SWRCB: Constituents of Emerging Concern in Drinking Water Program; WRCA = Support; Approved by Governor and Chaptered 9/28/22
- AB 2247 (Bloom): PFAS disclosure; Amended to intentionally added PFAS; WRCA = Support; Enrolled & sent to Governor 9/12/22; Vetoed by Governor 9/29/22

Link to more information:

<http://watereuse.org/sections/watereuse-california/legislativecommittee/>

2022 Water Legislation Outcome

So far, in 2023, there have not been many bills for recycled water, however there are still a few worth keeping an eye on:

- ACA-2 Public Resources: Water and Wildfire Resiliency Act of 2023; it is a big bond proposal, not directly for recycled water, but it is for fire. Therefore, it might include funding for some water projects.
- AB 221 (Ting): Budget Act of 2023; recycled water included
- SB 72 (Skinner): Budget Act 2023; recycled water included
- SB 231 (Hurtado): Drought modeling
- SB 366 (Caballero): The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets; includes recycled water

Bills have just been introduced; still formally evaluated; initial stage

Link to more information:

<http://watereuse.org/sections/watereuse-california/legislativecommittee/>

Regulatory Update

- Direct Potable Reuse Regulations
 - SWRCB to adopt regulations by December 31, 2023
 - Expect public comment period in Spring 2023
 - Potential revisions to DPR regulations
 - Waivers, BAF flexibility, source control, & other changes

- Alternative clause & DiPPRA unlikely to change
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/dpr-criteria-panel.html
- Water Use Efficiency Regulations
 - DWR submitted proposal to SWRCB
<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Water-Use-And-Efficiency/2018-Water-Conservation-Legislation/Urban-Water-Use-Efficiency-Standards-Variations-and-Performance-Measures>
- On-Site Reuse
 - SWRCB to adopt regulations by December 1, 2022
 - SWRCB has not started rulemaking process
 - Reuse of non-potable water; The Bay area has a requirement for bigger buildings to collect wastewater and treat it; deciding whether regulations should be required across the state or only for the cities that want to incorporate it into their building requirements
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/onsite_nonpotable-reuse-regulations.html
- Cross Connection Control Handbook
 - A second comment period through December 9, 2022
 - Board Adoption Meeting: TBD
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/cccp.html

Federal Update

- FY23 Appropriations
 - There is some money for recycled water, it looks like there will be additionally money
- Large Scale Water Recycling Program
 - Similar to Title 16 but project would have to be over \$500 million to be eligible
 - Draft guidance on Feasibility Studies released
 - Funding for feasibility studies open until 02/28/23
- Funding Alternative Water Supply Program
 - Letter requesting additional funding for a long term program and availability to entire country
 - Title 16 is only for the western 17 states so many other states do not get any funding, this alternative supply would help other states in the country to get some funding as well
- BABAA Waivers
 - Letter requesting additional waivers as there are not many options for waivers
- PFAS
 - WRA submitted comment letter

3. CA State Section Update (*Rafael Villegas*)

- Funding Opportunities

- WaterReuse CA updated its monthly funding opportunities list for 2023; will be distributed
- Proposed \$270 million in recycled water in Governor's Budget
 - WRCA to fight for grants only and will develop coalition letter
 - Anticipated \$25 billion short fall, the legislative analyst office indicated that if the economy continues to decline, there could be an additional \$24-40 billion deficit, the current budget currently includes \$210 million for potable reuse (recycled water competitive and potable reuse competitive), but that was reduced to about \$40 million total. With general funds scarce, the top priority for WaterReuse CA is to protect both of those pots moving forward.
 - In terms of financials at WRCA, reserves are at record high, \$842,000; expect additional contribution to the reserve of \$137,000. On 2/10, the board approved the funding in the reserves for \$500,000 of that to go towards investments (treasury bills)
- Budget contains \$7 million for DWR to conduct a study on the impacts of the 2030 indoor water use standard (42 GPCD)
- Information from 2/10/22 Meeting
 - Financial Report
 - PFAS: WRA is looking at PFAS or addressing the issue in three distinct areas
 - CERCLA, EPA is working to designate PFAS as a hazardous substance, which means companies would come under liability of CERCLA. WWTPs considered polluters. WRA is working and advocating for an exemption but only congress can provide an exemption from that liability. WRA advocating to find the responsible parties rather than laying that responsibility on the rate payers for water and wastewater treatment services
 - For drinking water, the EPA is working on an MCL; expected release date is March 2023 with a final to issue date of September 2023. WRA working alongside various partners and advocacies because it is expected that EPA will go to non-detect levels on PFAS
 - Webcast offerings: next month with Orange County, the symposium is going to be technical session on PFAS
 - Potable Reuse Permitting & Compliance Committee: formed at the last WRCA meeting. WRCA board deterred that members would benefit from a new committee serving as a regular forum for discussion, technical information exchange, and sharing of perspectives of potable reuse regulatory, permitting, and compliance issues. The Board wants to make sure that throughout the state, there is a communal consensus on lessons learned and the approaches so that there is a uniform approach on project development. Recently secured Vice Chair, Eric Bench. The committee will issue a one-page letter to describe what the committee will do and go through with the chapter secretaries to distribute information across the state. First meeting is in March 2023 and the following one in the June/July timeframe, and then again at the Indian Wells conference. If you

are interested in participating contact, Jason Dadakis, Orange County Water District, or Rosario Cortes Kepler. Rafael Villegas is a contact as well and he can forward info to the appropriate party.

- WaterReuse 2023 Symposium, March 5-8 at the Marriot Marquis Atlanta, Georgia.
 - Presentations:
 - Pretreatment program Drives the Future (LASAN); Sunday, March 5
 - Groundwater Recharge Utilizing Direct Injection of Stormwater and UR (City of Santa Monica); Monday, March 6
 - Climate Resiliency Planning and Adaptive Design for Future Water Projects (LASAN); Monday, March 6
 - Making Potable Reuse a Reality - Fit for Purpose Engineering and Piloting (LA SAN/Black & Veatch) - Tuesday, March 7
 - Program Management for Utilities – Using Your Program to Drive Innovation (LADWP); Tuesday, March 7
 - Ozone-BAC in California DPR Projects – There are Knowns and Unknowns (Arcadis); Tuesday, March 7
 - Private-Public Collaborations for Successful Water Replenishment (Brown & Caldwell, Pepsi Co, WRD); Tuesday, March 7
 - Collaborative Development of Non-RO IPR at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton (Hazen and Sawyer); Tuesday, March 7
- 2023 WaterReuse California Conference, Indian Wells, CA – November 5-7
 - Registration coming soon!
 - Looking to set up a golf tournament on November 5
 - Hyatt Indian Wells
 - Calls for abstracts will be coming right after the Atlanta Symposium

4. LA Chapter Update (*Jennifer Jacobus*)

- December 2022 Meeting Summary Approval: Approved
- Open Volunteer Opportunities: Meeting Summaries
- Ad Hoc Urban Irrigation Manual Update Committee
 - Co-Chairs:
 - Monica Sanchez/LACSD
 - Erika Bensch/LACSD
 - Jesus Gonzalez/LADWP
- Emerging Professionals Committee Update
 - Chair: Seto Cherchain Scherchian@BrwnCald.com
- Communications Lead
 - Chair: Oliver Slosser oslosser@lvmwd.org
- Awards Champion
 - Chair: Everett Ferguson eferguson@wrld.org

- Technical Topics Committee
 - Chair: Alex Franchi alex.franchi@aecom.com

5. Next Meetings

April 11, 2023 – Los Angeles Department of Water and Power – La Kretz Innovation Campus
June 13, 2023 – Water Replenishment District of Southern California - Sponsorship opportunity

6. Adjournment 1:00 p.m.

Los Angeles Chapter Officers for 2023/2024

Jared Lee, President	626-379-8443
Alex Waite, Vice President	424-399-6733
Jennifer Jacobus, Secretary/Treasurer	213-448-2586
Rafael Villegas, Chapter Trustee	213-367-1289
Fred Gerringer, Past President	626-319-1107

JLee@burbankca.gov
alex.waite@santamonica.gov
jjacobus@rinconconsultants.com
rafael.villegas@ladwp.com
fgerringer@hazenandsawyer.com

50 - Total In Person Attendance



Los Angeles County Sanitation District

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Please initial this box if you are attending this month's meeting

If you are not already on our email distribution list and would like to be added, please provide your email address here

12

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGANIZATION	INITIALS	ADD TO DISTRIBUTION LIST
Avendano	Carolina	Long Beach Utilities	CA	
Bacani	Daniel	LA County Public Health		
Back	Elisha	Woodard & Curran		
Bensch	Erika	LACSD	EB	
Bradley	Kelsey	Woodard & Curran	KB	
Brown	Suzanne	LACSD	SB	
Buan	Jason	LA County Public Health		
Cardoza	Andray	Environmental Science Associates		
Chang	Rita	LACSD	RC	
Chau	Paul	Kennedy/Jenks		
Chen	Wendy	Long Beach Utilities		
Cherchian	Seto	Brown & Caldwell	BSC	
Choudhary	Evelyn	Kennedy/Jenks	EC	
Christmann	Rebecca	Waterboards	RC	
Chun	Myung	Long Beach Utilities	MC	
Collins	Lauren	Eurofins	LC	
Cruz	Matthew	Long Beach Utilities	MC	
DeGhetto	Michael	Glendale Water and Power		
DiLaura	Donna	Walnut Valley Water District	DM	
Erickson	Kraig	Woodard & Curran		

17



Los Angeles County Sanitation District

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Please initial this box if you are attending this month's meeting

If you are not already on our email distribution list and would like to be added, please provide your email address here

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGANIZATION	INITIALS	ADD TO DISTRIBUTION LIST
Ferguson	Everett	WRD	<i>[initials]</i>	
Freidman	Steven	HDR	<i>[initials]</i>	
Fuller	Kyle	Brown & Caldwell	KF	KFuller @ brown.cald.com
Gerringer	Fred	Hazen	FG	
Ghuman	Preeti	LACSD	PG	
Guido	Isabelle	Central Basin MWD	IG	igu isabelle.g@centralbasin.org
Gundarahalli	Jagadish	AECOM	JG	jagadish.gundarahalli@aecom.com
Hartling	Earle	LACSD	EH	earlehartling@gmail.com
Herrbach	Michael	Long Beach Utilities	MH	Michael.Herrbach@lbwater.org
Hiney	Ryan	Long Beach Utilities	RH	Ryan.Hiney@LBwater.org
Huang-Uy	Jinny	Long Beach Utilities	JH	
Huizenga	Robert	Burbank Water and Power	RH	
Jacobus	Jennifer	Rincon Consultants	JH	
Jaquez	Greg	MNS		
Jay	Raymond	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	RJ	
Jones	Holly	LACSD	HJ	hollyjones@lacsd.org
Klempke	Adam	Long Beach Utilities	AK	Adam.Klempke@LButilties.org
Lazenby	Bruce	Rose Hills Memorial Park		
Leamy	Robert	Rowland Water District	RL	
Lee	Jared	Burbank Water and Power	JL	



Los Angeles County Sanitation District

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Please initial this box if you are attending this month's meeting.

If you are not already on our email distribution list and would like to be added, please provide your email address here

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGANIZATION	INITIALS	ADD TO DISTRIBUTION LIST
Lee	Crystal	City of Los Angeles	CL	Crystal.Lee@lacity.org
Leon	Luis	AECOM	LL	Luis.LLeon@AECOM.com
Lippmann	Leah	DDW Recycled Water Unit	LL	
Lopez	Nick	Burbank Water and Power	NL	nlopez@burbankca.gov
Lynch	Scott	Jurupa Community Services District	TL	
Miller	Judi	Jacobs		
Mkhitarian	Lusi	LA County Public Health		
Monk	Tom	Walnut Valley Water District		
Noelte	Travis	Rowland Water District	TL	
Robinson	John	John Robinson Consulting	JR	
Robinson	Julie Ann	Glendale Water and Power (virtual)		
Rojas	Jennifer	Long Beach Utilities	JR	Jennifer.rojas@lbutilities.org
Sato	Stephen	LA County Public Health	SR	
Shabani	Farzaneh	Ky Carollo	FS	
Slifko	Theresa	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	TS	
Steiner	Nicole	Environmental Science Associates	NS	
Stevens	Leela	Long Beach Utilities		
Tettermer	Mark	Irvine Ranch Water District		
Tsui	Thomas	SWRCB Recycled Water Unit	TT	THOMAS.Tsui@waterboards.ca.gov
Villeagas	Rafael	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power	RV	Rafael.Villeagas@LADWP.org



Los Angeles County Sanitation District

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Please initial this box if you are attending this month's meeting.

If you are not already
on our **email**
distribution list and
would like to be
added, please
provide your email
address here

[illegible]