



For Immediate Release:

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**West Basin Municipal Water District Has Become the Most Unique Water District in the World When It Comes to Variety and Uses of Recycled Wastewater**

EL SEGUNDO, CALIF. – West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) has developed one of the most unique water recycling systems in the world. West Basin makes five types of “designer” recycled waters that serve various needs from ordinary turf irrigation to refinery cooling towers, street cleaners to indirect drinking water.

West Basin’s five types of “designer” recycled waters include ultrapure water for high pressure boiler feeds, purified water for low pressure boiler feeds, cooling tower water, irrigation water, and indirect potable drinking water for seawater barriers (barrier water) that protect coastal L.A. groundwater from saltwater contamination. Barrier water also replenishes groundwater wells. No other water agency in the world has such a unique and diverse array of sewer water for recycled water uses. Engineers, elected officials and others visit from around the world to learn about West Basin’s sewer water recycling efforts that are creating a new, much-needed supply of water.

West Basin launched its water recycling program in the mid-1990’s following a statewide drought. To promote local water reliability, West Basin has invested more than \$500 million dollars in this unique program. West Basin has also invested in an ocean-water desalination program that uses the same technology – microfiltration and reverse osmosis.

The water recycling program provides environmental benefits in that 30 million (and eventually 70 million) gallons a day of sewer water and five tons of biosolids

(eventually 10 tons) are no longer discharged each day into Santa Monica Bay. Each day, that amount of wastewater is redirected to West Basin's water recycling facility for treatment and reuse. The biosolids are recycled daily into landfill covers and roadbed fill. West Basin's solar panels contribute 10% of peak energy use for recycled water production.

West Basin's recycling program serves parks, golf courses, office buildings, and others, recently producing its 100 billionth gallon of recycled water. West Basin works with more than 300 customers, from Chevron, Exxon-Mobil, bp, Toyota, and Honda, to the Home Depot Center, Marriott and others. 100 billion gallons is enough water to serve 2.5 million people for an entire year.

Recycled water production is part of West Basin's Water Reliability 2020 program to provide greater water reliability and help Metropolitan Water District of Southern California both meet Southern California's future water needs and ease some of the strain on Northern California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta.

*West Basin Municipal Water District serves a million people in 17 cities throughout its 185-square mile coastal L.A. service area. West Basin's award-winning water recycling facility is the only one of its kind in the world that produces 5 types of customer-designed waters. West Basin's Water Reliability 2020 program is focused on reducing our dependence on imported water by doubling our water recycling distribution, doubling water conservation efforts, and providing 20 million gallons a day of desalinated ocean-water by the year 2020. For more information, visit [www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org).*

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