



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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Contact: Alexis Tate, Chief Public Information Officer  
310-660-6218 | alexist@westbasin.org

**WEST BASIN BOARD PRESIDENT AWARDED VISIONARY ENVIRONMENTAL  
LEADERSHIP IN DESALINATION AWARD FROM CALDESAL**

*Kwan Receives First Annual Award for Environmental Ocean-Water Desalination Research*

SAN DIEGO, Calif. – West Basin Municipal Water District’s (West Basin) Board President, Carol Kwan, was awarded the first annual Visionary Environmental Leadership in Desalination Award from CalDesal. The award was presented at the second annual CalDesal conference October 3, 2013 in San Diego, Calif.

“Carol Kwan was a natural selection for the inaugural Visionary Environmental Leadership in Desalination Award,” said Ron Davis, Executive Director of CalDesal. “As President of the West Basin Municipal Water District, she and her Board have paved the way for Southern California desalination research – investing in ground breaking research in the areas of environmental protection, energy efficiency and education and sharing it with the public and others interested in desalination,” Davis noted.

The Visionary Environmental Leadership in Desalination Award was established to recognize and honor a CalDesal member or individual that distinguishes themselves as a visible and positive environmental leader for sustainable desalination in California. CalDesal is the only advocacy group in California solely dedicated to advancing the responsible development of desalination, groundwater desalination and salinity activities to meet the state’s water-supply challenges. The coalition is made up of more than 60 organizations and agencies and headquartered in Sacramento, CA.

“I am honored to receive this award from CalDesal and pledge to continue to work towards establishing environmentally responsible ocean-water desalination as a viable new source of water,” said West Basin President Carol Kwan. I share this award with my fellow West Basin Board Members who have truly pioneered new ways to responsibly create desalinated water – including a demonstration facility and education center that has educated more than 2,500 residents on water supply and desalination,” Kwan noted.

Kwan was first elected to the West Basin Board of Directors in 1996 to represent the cities of Hermosa Beach, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach and Torrance. She won re-election in November 2008 and again in 2012 and is currently in her fifth term of office. President Kwan is the first female and Asian American elected to the West Basin Board in its 50-year history and is the first Asian American member to have served on the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors. Director Kwan currently serves as West Basin’s Board President. West Basin’s Water Reliability 2020 program which includes water recycling, water conservation and ocean-water desalination has more than 10,000 supporters to date.

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*West Basin Municipal Water District is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area. West Basin is reducing its dependence on imported water through its Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean water to its portfolio by the year 2020. Visit [www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org) to learn more.*