

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Noelle Collins 310-660-6217

noellec@westbasin.org

December 5, 2008

SEE HOW WATER IS MADE: FREE PUBLIC TOURS OFFERED of WATER PURIFICATION FACILITY

9:30am on 2nd Saturday of Each Month, beginning December 13, 2008

EL SEGUNDO, CA—For the first time ever, West Basin Municipal Water District ("West Basin") is opening its water recycling facility to the public, one day each month, to show how it takes wastewater and turns it into near-distilled quality water in 20 minutes.

All tour participants must wear closed-toe shoes and be prepared to walk up stairs for part of the tour. Previously, these tours were only available to school groups, delegations and visitors to West Basin's annual Water Harvest festival.

Tours begin promptly at 9:30am at the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility located at 1935 S. Hughes Way (near Sepulveda) in El Segundo and last approximately 1 hour. **Call 310-217-2411 to reserve your spot**. Children age 7 and above are welcome and must be accompanied by an adult. Please let us know if you have special needs when calling to make your reservation. The tour is *free*.

Southern California is in the midst of a prolonged drought and faces the possibility of water rationing this spring if weather provides normal or less-than-average rainfall and snowpack this winter. This tour program is part of West Basin's Water Reliability 2020 Program to increase local control of our water supply in the region by doubling our water recycling, doubling conservation, expanding water education programs, and adding ocean-water desalination to our water supply portfolio by 2020.