



For Immediate Release: November 18, 2008  
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## **L.A. City Councilmember Janice Hahn visits West Basin Water Purification Facility, Tastes Recycled Water**

El Segundo, CA— L.A. City Councilmember Janice Hahn visited West Basin’s water purification facility yesterday for a Water Reliability 2020 program briefing and tour of the facility. The briefing included an overview of West Basin’s plan to raise awareness and implement long-term change in water use throughout the South Bay region.

Imported water is becoming less reliable due to population growth, a broken state water hub in the Bay Delta, and the impacts of climate change. West Basin’s Water Reliability 2020 Program will make our local supplies more dependable and our cities more sustainable.

The visit closed with Councilwoman Hahn joining West Basin Directors Ronald C. (Ron) Smith and Gloria D. Gray and Water Replenishment District (WRD) Director Rob Katherman for a taste of the purified recycled water. “It’s delicious,” said Councilmember Hahn.

“Our goal is to reduce our region’s dependence on imported water from 66% to 33% by the year 2020,” stated West Basin Director Ronald C. (Ron) Smith, “and we’ll accomplish that by doubling our recycled water production, doubling our conservation success, expanding our education programs, and investing in ocean-water desalination.”

West Basin has invested in 70 miles of ‘purple pipes’ for recycled water and has 60 additional miles in progress. West Basin’s Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility produces 30 million gallons of recycled water every day, taking roughly 10% of Hyperion’s treated wastewater and processing it into 5 different types of usable water, depending on customer need. The treated wastewater would otherwise be sent to Santa Monica Bay. West Basin provides recycled water to more than 200 customers throughout the South Bay, including bp, Chevron, Goodyear, Toyota, and Honda.

Much of yesterday’s discussion centered on the use of micro-filtration, reverse osmosis and ultraviolet light to remove impurities from the water, processes employed at the facility. Though not currently used for drinking water, the purified recycled water meets drinking water standards.

The Water Replenishment District is one of West Basin’s largest recycled water customers, injecting purified recycled water into the West Coast Basin seawater barrier. The seawater barrier protects fresh groundwater supplies from saltwater intrusion and contamination. The seawater barrier had previously been supported with 100% imported water.

“We’ve been gradually shifting our water supply for the barrier to recycled water and now support it with only 25% imported water and 75% purified recycled water,” said recently re-elected WRD Director Rob Katherman, “It makes sense to re-use our water supplies and infuse the local barrier with locally-produced water.” West Basin and WRD are working together to supply the seawater barrier entirely with purified recycled water over the next couple of years.

For more information about West Basin’s Water Reliability 2020 Program, visit [www.westbasin.org](http://www.westbasin.org).

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