

For Immediate Release: Contact:

November 23, 2011 Noelle Collins Media & Public Information 310-660-6217, noellec@westbasin.org

West Basin's Senior Environmental Quality Specialist Elected to American Water Works Association Board of Trustees

CARSON, Calif. —Uzi Daniel, West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Senior Environmental Quality Specialist, has recently earned a new position as Trustee of the Board for the American Water Works Association (AWWA) in the California-Nevada section. AWWA is the oldest water trade association in the country with more than nine million members.

Board members of AWWA elected Daniel to a three-year term to serve as liaison between the voting board and a number of divisions within AWWA to help bring clean and potable water to people throughout the United States. AWWA supports drinking water professionals by providing trusted resources to ensure public health and provide safe water for all.

Daniel has been an active member of AWWA since 1996. She has been chair of the international nonprofit *Water for People* for a decade in which she has doubled membership and raised significant chartable contributions for developing countries to improve their quality of life.

"Forty percent of water professionals and operators will retire within the next ten years and I'd like to communicate with, and attract, young adults to the water industry" said Daniel. "Being part of AWWA as a Trustee will provide great opportunities to reach out to current and future leaders to get young people involved and ready to lead as the current generation gets ready to retire," she said.

Uzi Daniel began her environmental quality career while completing her undergraduate studies at University of California, Santa Barbara, where she initiated the campus' solid waste recycling program for the University to comply with AB 939. AB 939 mandated local jurisdictions to meet solid waste diversion goals of 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by the year 2000. This led to her interest in practical environmental issues and graduate work at the University in Freiburg, Germany, and at California State University Fullerton, where she completed her Masters of Science in Environmental Studies. Having now worked more than 17 years in environmental quality and compliance for the potable and recycled water industry – both private and public sectors– she has enjoyed more than eight years at West Basin working with progressive applications of reclaimed water.

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For more information about AWWA, visit <u>www.awwa.org</u>. For more information on Water for People visit <u>www.waterforpeople.org</u>.

Since the District's formation in 1947, West Basin has remained committed to ensuring water reliability. Faced with water supply challenges, West Basin has launched a far-reaching initiative that increases supply dependability by producing new local resources. The Water Reliability 2020 program will reduce our dependence on imported water by extending recycled water pipelines, doubling conservation, expanding water education programs and developing ocean-water desalination. The combination of these efforts will increase regional control of local supplies of water from 33 percent today to 66 percent in 2020 and serve to protect our region's precious drinking water supply. To learn more about Water Reliability 2020 and for information on free tours and conservation classes, visit <u>www.westbasin.org</u>.