Western Increases Reliable Source of Local Water

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – March 28, 2012 – Western Municipal Water District recently completed its Western Water Recycling Facility expansion project, which will bring a much-needed local, secure source of recycled water for the region.

The approximately $50 million expansion project is the largest, single construction project Western has undertaken in its 50-plus year history. “The Western Water Recycling Facility increases our local water supply by providing recycled water to irrigate parks, schools and landscapes,” said Jeff Sims, Western’s chief operations officer. “Recycled water helps us to use the right source of water for the right use in our region.”

The expansion has increased the facility’s capacity to 3 million gallons of wastewater treated per day and upgraded it to tertiary treatment, the highest level of treatment. Prior to the expansion, the facility treated 1 million gallons of water a day at secondary treatment levels.

That water was provided to the General Archie Old Golf Course and the Riverside National Cemetery for irrigation purposes. Now with tertiary treatment, Western is able to provide recycled water to additional nonpotable water use customers.

As part of its Strategic Plan, Western is committed to finding local sources of water for customers to ease their use on costly and less reliable imported water supplies. Coupled with Southern California’s growing population and demand for water, it’s essential for Western to continue to diversify water supplies.

“Now more than ever, we are facing uncertainty to our water supply as regulatory issues continue to limit the amount of water imported from Northern California and water supply challenges threaten the availability of water in the Colorado River and northern supply,” said John Rossi, Western’s general manager. “This expansion project is just one way Western is diversifying our water supply portfolio and securing our region’s water supply.”

Western Municipal Water District provides water supply, wastewater disposal and water resource management to the public in a safe, reliable, environmentally sensitive and financially responsible manner.

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