



Central Basin Municipal Water District

17140 S. Avalon Blvd • Suite 210 • Carson, CA 90746-1296

telephone 310-217-2411 • fax 310-217-2414

**For Immediate Release
November 24, 2004**

**Contact: Nikki Montellano
(310) 660-6252**

Santa Fe Springs and Whittier Drink In Central Basin MWD's Efforts *Water Quality Protection Project Begins Providing Drinking Water to Cities*

Carson, CA – Central Basin Municipal Water District began serving drinking water this week from its Water Quality Protection Project (WQPP) to residents of Santa Fe Springs and Whittier.

Residents are now able to make use of up to 3,600 gallons of water per minute that was previously unavailable for household use. Santa Fe Springs will receive a maximum of 586.4 million gallons of water per year, and Whittier will receive a maximum of 260.6 million gallons of water per year from the WQPP.

The WQPP is a \$10 million project, federally funded through the United States Bureau of Reclamation, constructed to prevent a contaminant plume fouling San Gabriel Valley supplies from spreading into the local groundwater supply. For the past eight months, Central Basin has been treating this groundwater at the WQPP treatment plant in Whittier, testing it and releasing it into the San Gabriel River. After the State Department of Health Services determined that the water meets all drinking water standards and is safe for consumption, Central Basin began the process to provide this water to local residents.

“As water is a precious resource here in Southern California, it is important that we utilize all possible drinking water sources,” said Central Basin Board President Bob Apodaca. “The Water Quality Protection Project is helping to ensure that we provide a continuous supply of water to our customers today and in the future.”

Central Basin is also currently working with the City of Pico Rivera to begin delivery of water from the WQPP by early December.

Central Basin is a public agency that wholesales imported water to cities, mutual water companies, investor-owned utilities and private companies in southeast Los Angeles County, serving a population of more than 1.5 million. In addition, Central Basin provides the region with recycled water for municipal, commercial and industrial uses. Formed in 1952, Central Basin is committed to ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for the region.

###