



For Immediate Release

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**CENTRAL BASIN BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES CONSTRUCTION
CONTRACTS FOR THE SOUTHEAST WATER RELIABILITY PROJECT**
RECYCLED WATER PROJECT ON SCHEDULE TO BREAK GROUND JANUARY 2010

Commerce CA – The Central Basin Municipal Water District Board of Directors unanimously approved the construction contracts for the Southeast Water Reliability Project (SWRP) and voted to delay implementation of the Infrastructure Surcharge that will help to fund the project until 2013.

The Southeast Water Reliability Project, a 15-mile recycled water pipeline that will extend from Pico Rivera through Montebello and southeast Los Angeles County, will enhance the operational reliability of the current water system by completing a “loop” of existing pipelines.

Once completed, SWRP will provide nearly 5 billion gallons of recycled water annually to meet the demands of large industrial and irrigation users in the area. Through the increased use of recycled water, SWRP will help the entire region conserve limited potable water supplies, and will **reduce regional demand on imported water by 25%**.

“This project is extremely important to southeast LA County,” said Central Basin General Manager Art Aguilar. “Since the beginning, our recycled water system was intended to be a looped system. SWRP will finally achieve this, and will create more than 254 jobs for our community in the process. Now is the time to make this happen.”

SWRP has qualified to receive \$5.6 million in federal stimulus funding and \$3.5 million through California Proposition 50 grant funding. The project will also be funded in part through an Infrastructure Surcharge, which the Central Basin Board of Directors voted to implement in two phases and delay until 2013 and 2022, respectively.

“There is no question that the surcharge is both necessary and long overdue,” continued Art Aguilar. “By delaying it for several years, our cities and retailers will have the time they need to incorporate it into their annual budgets.”

For more information about the Southeast Water Reliability Project, please visit www.centralbasin.org.

“Serving Our Community”