Inland Empire Utilities Agency

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"Providing low sewer and water rates to IEUA's service area is a primary mission of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, which serves 850,000 residents in western San Bernardino County," stated IEUA Board President Terry Catlin.

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he Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), a municipal water district, was formed in 1950 to supply supplemental water to the Chino Basin. Since then, IEUA has expanded its responsibility to provide industrial and municipal wastewater collection and treatment. IEUA operates four regional water-recycling facilities that treat approximately 60 million gallons of wastewater per day. From these facilities, IEUA is focused on producing three key products: recycled water to help reduce dependence on expensive imported water; converting biosolids into high quality compost to ensure healthy soils; and renewable energy through methane gas, solar and wind generation, as well as fuel cell facilities.

Recycled Water • • • •

Recycled water is a safe, reliable, and cost-effective approach to managing our limited water resources. "By reducing our demand on expensive imported water, IEUA and its local water agencies are not only saving money, but helping to drought-proof the region," stated IEUA Vice President Michael Camacho, who represents IEUA on the Metropolitan Water District's Board of Directors. Over the past few years, IEUA and its local water providers have invested in an aggressive program to expand delivery of high quality recycled water to its service area. In January 2011, IEUA connected Temple Inland Paper Mill to recycled water. "To date, IEUA has more than 500 customers connected to recycled water throughout its service area," declared Camacho.

Compost • • • • • • • •

The Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility processes over 200,000 tons of waste products per year into valuable compost. The Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility is an excellent example of IEUA's ability to provide a regional sustainable solution to biosolids management. "It also represents a less expensive and more reliable solution to the disposal of our region's organic material, rather than costly, long distance trucking; therefore saving taxpayers' money," stated Camacho.



Renewable Energy • •

"IEUA has developed a strategic Energy Management Plan with a specific focus on energy independence from the grid, during the peak energy usage hours, by the year 2020," stated IEUA Secretary/Treasurer Steven J. Elie. "This will be accomplished through energy efficiency improvements and increased on-site renewable energy generation (solar, wind, fuel cells)," added Elie. The Energy Management Plan will reduce the demand on an already taxed California power grid system while enhancing IEUA's energy reliability and rate stability in an environmentally prudent manner.

"IEUA is currently self-generating approximately 35% of its energy demand during the peak hours between noon and 6:00 p.m.," added Elie.





These projects are part of IEUA's Go Gridless by 2020 plan:

• The 3.5 megawatts of solar power at IEUA's water recycling facilities and the composting facility will save IEUA hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

• IEUA expects to install 1 megawatt of wind generation at its water recycling facility located in Rancho Cucamonga by late summer. However, this project has experienced a short delay as a result of the earthquake and tsunami that occurred in Japan this past March.

• IEUA will also be adding fuel cells to its renewable energy portfolio. Last October, IEUA entered into a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement with a private company, UTS, to install, operate and maintain a 2.8 megawatt fuel cell, fueled primarily with renewable biogas. Under the terms and conditions of the PPA, the capital outlay to build and operate the plant will be assumed by the private contractor and IEUA will purchase the renewable energy generated at an agreed upon price. The fuel cell system is scheduled to be operational in early 2012 and is expected to supply approximately 50% of the electrical demand for IEUA's treatment facility located in the city of Ontario, as well as a substantial amount of heat.

Managing the Chino Groundwater Basin

Chino Basin residents depend on the Chino Groundwater Basin for about 65% of their drinking water needs. "IEUA, Chino Basin Water Conservation District, Chino Basin Watermaster, and the San Bernardino County Flood Control District have been working together to enhance



our local water supplies by improving the percolation and recharge into our aquifers, ensuring there is emergency storage, by increasing our ability to recharge local recycled water, imported water, and storm water into the Chino Groundwater Basin," stated IEUA Director Angel Santiago.

The storms of 2011 provided the region with an abundance of rain. "Over the past year, IEUA was able to capture and recharge approximately 20,000 acre feet into the groundwater basins," added Santiago. An acre-foot of water is enough water for two average families in and around the home for one year.

"Another innovative project, The Chino Basin Desalination Program provides 25 million gallons per day of high quality drinking water," added Santiago.

Outreach

"The Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park is open to the public and provides a hands-on opportunity for the community to experience the importance of constructed wetlands in the protection of our watershed," stated IEUA Director Gene Koopman. The Park improves water quality, flood control, habitat restoration, recreation, water conservation and public education. The Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) is the Agency's partner for park tours and education programs. "This past Earth Day, over 1,200 visitors enjoyed the many exhibits stationed throughout the park," added Koopman.

Since 2005, IEUA has reached over 20,000 students with its award winning Garden in Every School® program. The purpose of the Garden in Every School® program is to educate the school family and community about wise-water usage through a garden landscape, featuring drought-tolerant plants and efficient irrigation methods. IEUA continues to be a leader in water supply salt management, for the purpose of protecting the regions vital groundwater supplies. As part of the Salinity Management Action Plan, IEUA is addressing the home use of self-generating water softeners that are contributing to controllable salt in our recycled water. "To help manage the salt discharge from these softeners, IEUA offers a rebate for the voluntary removal of residential self-generating water softeners," stated Koopman.

"With IEUA's continuing emphasis on cost containment, and with the dedication and effort of staff, IEUA will continue to provide reliable and cost-effective services to the communities it serves," stated IEUA Board President Terry Catlin.

> State and Federal agencies have financially assisted in many of IEUA's projects. These include: California Integrated Waste Management Board U.S. Department of Energy, CEC Pier grant, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, California Department of Parks and Recreation, California Energy Commission, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Western United Resource Development, Inc., California Public Utilities Commission through Southern California Gas Company Self Generation Incentive Program, California Solar Initiative Southern California Edison, State Water Resources Control Board, U.S. Department Of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, California Department of Water Resources, and WateReuse Foundation

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Inland Empire Utilities Agency 61 Years of Excellence in Water Resources and Quality Management.



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