



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 21, 2014

Contact:

Rebecca Long

Manager of External Affairs

909.993.1968

rlong@ieua.org

Local High Schools Show Teamwork and Dedication As They Compete In the 2014 Solar Cup Boat Competition

Inland Empire, CA - The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) has co-sponsored two local high school teams for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's 2014 Solar Cup boat competition.

Los Osos High School, located in the City of Rancho Cucamonga and co-sponsored by the Cucamonga Valley Water District; and Chino High School, located in the City of Chino and co-sponsored by the City of Chino, competed against 39 high schools, both veterans and rookies, throughout Southern California in this year's solar-powered boat competition held at Lake Skinner on May 16-18, 2014. The students and advisors have worked for over eight months on this program which focuses on teamwork and student application of skills in math, physics, engineering and communication. During this process, the students are learning about California's water sources, resource management, conservation and alternative energy development.

"The leadership, enthusiasm and teamwork that has been on display at this year's competition has been truly inspiring," stated Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Director and IEUA Board Vice President Michael Camacho who represents the city of Rancho Cucamonga. "Over the last three days, these students have applied various learned skills that this competition fosters and cultivates. It is encouraging to witness the success of the student's hard work, drive and dedication."

"This competition allows students to work together to problem solve, communicate, utilize creativity and understand sustainability at a new level," stated IEUA Board of Director Steven J. Elie who represents the cities of Chino and Chino Hills. "This teaching method serves as a guide for students to interact in a hands-on learning environment while focusing on real-world issues and formulating solutions. The program acts as a manifestation of environmental stewardship and forward thinking."

The competition began on Friday, May 16, as teams were put through qualifying events to ensure that the boats met all of the rules and were safe. Saturday, May 17, the boats took part in endurance races led around a 1.6 kilometer course. Sunday, May 18, the competition focused on boat sprint races in which the solar panels were removed and the solar boats were then powered by solar energy stored in batteries.

Los Osos High School took home five trophies and placed fifth overall. Their awards include: first place veteran region (Inland) Public Service Announcement; first place veteran region (Inland) Endurance; first place veteran for Hottest Looking Boat; second place veteran region (Inland) 200-Meter Sprint; and Teamwork Award.

Inland Empire Utilities Agency

www.ieua.org

6075 Kimball Avenue, Chino, California 91708

909.993.1600

Chino High School placed 17th overall and received a trophy for placing second in veteran region (Inland) for Endurance.

The teams do not only gain points through placement in the weekend competitions, but they have been earning points throughout the past several months by participating in technical inspections, submission of technical reports, and the creation of a public service announcement focusing on water conservation.

The teams have worked hard and have demonstrated enthusiasm and successful teamwork throughout the program. Their drive at learning-by-doing has brought them great success.

Photos available upon request

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency covers 242-square miles, distributes imported water, provides industrial/municipal wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services to more than 830,000 people through its member agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, and Upland.

###