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**Inland Empire Utilities Agency Receives a Trifecta of Grand Prize Awards
for the Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 5 Battery Storage Project**

Inland Empire, CA – The American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists® (AAEES) presented the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA/Agency) grand prize awards in three categories for the Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 5 Battery Storage Project at the annual awards luncheon held on April 13, 2017, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

The annual Excellence in Environmental Engineering and Science™ Competition, held by AAEES, acknowledges and rewards the best of today's environmental engineering and science practices. The awards program identifies those that practice 'a holistic environmental perspective, innovation, proven performance and customer satisfaction, and contribution to an improved quality of life and economic efficiency.'

The Agency submitted the battery storage project in three categories based on its practices: environmental sustainability, operations/management and planning. IEUA received the grand prize in all three categories, demonstrating the project's balance of environmental stewardship, economic development, social well-being, efficient environmental planning methods, and successful operational management.

"IEUA continues to recognize the water-energy nexus while developing a comprehensive portfolio of projects that enable us to meet our renewable energy goals," stated Steve Elie, IEUA Board President. "In addition to the Agency's solar, wind, fuel cell, and food-waste renewable energy projects, the landmark, first-of-its-kind battery storage project stores excess renewable generation to power IEUA's facilities when demand on the electrical grid is high. This battery storage project is the key to maximizing the value of IEUA's investments in renewable energy, allowing us to use our resources more efficiently, reduce costs for our customers and participate in building a more resilient electric grid for the whole region."

The American Academy of Environmental Engineering and Scientists® is a not-for-profit 501(c)(6) organization serving the Environmental Engineering and Environmental Science professions by providing Board Certification to those who qualify through experience and testing. The Academy also provides training through workshops and seminars, participates in accrediting universities, publishes a periodical and other reference material, interacts with students and young professionals, sponsors a university lecture series, and rewards outstanding achievements through its international awards program.

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 875,000 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.