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Inland Empire Utilities Agency Recognized for Two CWEA Awards

Agency Recognized for Outstanding Leadership and Outreach Initiatives

INLAND EMPIRE, CA – The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA/Agency) was presented with two awards from the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) at the Santa Ana River Basin Section (SARBS) Annual Awards Banquet and Board Installation. The two award categories were: Community Engagement and Outreach: Project of the Year Award and the Supervisor of the Year Gold Award.

The CWEA awards highlight outstanding contributions to the water industry and celebrate the inspirational wastewater professionals who go above and beyond to promote public awareness of the importance of wastewater treatment to public health and the environment.

"These awards exemplify the Agency's values in leading the way, planning for the future and staying at the forefront of the industry," said Steve Elie, IEUA Board President. "The Agency is honored to be recognized for our staff's incredible efforts to continue serving the community efficiently and increasing public awareness of environmental issues."

The Community Engagement & Outreach – Project of the Year (Small Budget) Award was presented to the Agency for its "2021 Virtual Earth Week" event. The week-long virtual event was designed and built by IEUA staff, which involved utilizing a platform that provided attendees the opportunity to explore the Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park in an immersive, 360-degree realm while learning about topics related to environmental stewardship. The Agency will be holding its second virtual Earth Week event this year from April 17 through April 23. Visit <u>www.ieua.org/events/2022-virtual-earth-week/</u> for more information or sign up to receive updates and alerts about the event!

The Supervisor of the Year Gold Award was presented to the Agency's Maintenance Supervisor, Michael Conway. This award recipient is selected by the CWEA's Leadership Development Committee and highlights successful mentoring of team members, professional development, and effective communication.

"I am incredibly proud of the recognition and for the staff we have here at IEUA, including our award-winning Maintenance Supervisor, Michael Conway. The efforts and initiative shown by staff demonstrate the value we place on providing essential services to the region. We are an Agency that remains committed to serving the community by providing essential services while advancing efficiency, innovation, reliability, and community engagement in the water industry," continued Elie.

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 customer agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, and Upland. www.ieua.org