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Multi-Award-Winning Agency Recognized at CWEA Annual Conference

Inland Empire Utilities Agency Recognized for Four Awards in the Water Arena

INLAND EMPIRE, CA – The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA/Agency) recently attended the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) Annual Conference where staff were presented with four awards highlighting plant safety and innovation. The four award categories and recognitions received at the State level were received in the following categories: Gimmicks and Gadgets, Safety Plant of the Year, Collection System Person of the Year, and Laboratory Person of the Year.

“IEUA implements safety programs and innovative projects, all a result of our exceptional staff that help us to fulfill our responsibility as a Steward of the Region,” said IEUA Board President Marco Tule. “CWEA is a leader in environmental initiatives and acts to empower wastewater professionals as they protect California’s most critical resource: water. At IEUA, we pride ourselves in knowing that we play a critical role in supporting this mission.”

CWEA is committed to empowering, educating, and connecting water professionals to protect public health and the environment. CWEA’s awards highlight outstanding contributions to the water industry and celebrate the agencies and individuals who lead the way in the protection and enhancement of the environment. IEUA staff and facilities were presented with the following awards:

Gimmicks and Gadgets Award – First Place was presented to staff within IEUA’s Maintenance and Asset Management units for the Digester Gas Mixer Condition Monitor and Thermal Protection Project. The award recognizes innovation and creativity in developing solutions to performing routine tasks or functions in maintenance, operations, or construction of wastewater collection systems.

Safety Plant of the Year Award – Third Place was presented to Regional Water Recycling Plant No. 1. Award criteria includes number of injuries, lost-time accidents, record keeping, in-house training, emergency response and program implementation.

Collection System Person of the Year Award – Second Place was presented to Collection System Operator III Edward Chavez. The award recognizes an individual for their innovation and excellence in collection systems maintenance.

Laboratory Person of the Year Award – Third Place was presented to Laboratory Scientist II Supriti Shrestha. The award recognizes involvement in projects that advance the science of laboratory technology and an individual’s contributions to CWEA.

“We are honored to receive recognition on such a broad scale from Agency-wide safety initiatives to individual staff efforts. These awards represent the leadership and commitment we provide to the region in ensuring our water resources are safe and reliable now and for the future,” continued Tule.

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The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA/Agency) is an innovative, forward-thinking Agency serving 242-square miles in western San Bernardino County. The Agency is committed to supporting the needs of its service area and safeguarding public health through its significant investments in developing a diversified water supply portfolio, developing reliable municipal/industrial wastewater collection and treatment services, and other related utility services in a regionally planned and cost-effective manner. IEUA's mission ensures long-term success for the region and its customer agencies which include Chino, Chino Hills, Cucamonga Valley Water District, Fontana, Fontana Water Company, Montclair, Monte Vista Water District, Ontario, San Antonio Water Company, Upland, and West Valley Water District.