

**December 7, 2020 Public Hearing for Achievements in Conservation, Recycling and  
Groundwater Recharge Correspondence Received List**

<b>Ref No.</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time Received</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Date Sent to BOD</b>
1	11/23/2020 @ 11:21 AM	Jaymie Felipe, Plant Operations COORD/Safety Officer	Greater El Monte Community Hospital	<a href="mailto:jrobinson@johnrobinsonconsulting.com">jrobinson@johnrobinsonconsulting.com</a>	12/3/2020
2	11/25/2020 @ 3:33 PM	James Enriquez, PE, Director of Public Works	Public Works Department, City of Montebello	<a href="mailto:jrobinson@johnrobinsonconsulting.com">jrobinson@johnrobinsonconsulting.com</a>	12/3/2020
3	12/1/2020 @ 5:50 PM	David Blekhman, Professor & Technical Director, Hydrogen Research & Fueling Facility	California State University, Los Angeles - College of Engineering, Computer Science and Technology	<a href="mailto:blekhman@calstatela.edu">blekhman@calstatela.edu</a>	12/3/2020
4	12/3/2020 @ 3:19 PM	Tia Lebherz, Executive Director, External Affairs Sarah Foley, Executive Director, Operations	California Water Efficiency Partnership	<a href="mailto:sarah@calwep.org">sarah@calwep.org</a>	12/4/2020
5	12/4/2020 @ 7:47 AM	Mary Ann Dickinson, President & CEO	Alliance for Water Efficiency	<a href="mailto:maryann@a4we.org">maryann@a4we.org</a>	12/4/2020
6	12/7/2020 @ 12:46 AM	Kelley C. Barsanti, Associate Professor, Chemical & Environmental Engineering Center for Environmental Research & Technology	University of California, Riverside	<a href="mailto:kbarsanti@enr.ucr.edu">kbarsanti@enr.ucr.edu</a>	12/5/2020
7	12/7/2020 @ 9:24 AM	Patrick Sheilds, General Manager	West Basin MWD	<a href="mailto:EdwardC@westbasin.org">EdwardC@westbasin.org</a>	12/5/2020



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December 7, 2020

Mr. Jeffrey Kightlinger, General Manager  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
700 N. Alameda St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Value of Metropolitan Water District's Local Resources Program to West Basin Municipal Water District's Water Recycling Program

Dear Mr. Kightlinger,

On behalf of West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) and the communities we serve, I want to thank Metropolitan Water District (Metropolitan) for its continued support for the development of local water supplies, and its investment in member agencies, like West Basin, through the Local Resources Program (LRP). With incentives through the LRP, West Basin has been successful in developing a world class water recycling program. This effort is the cornerstone of our "Water for Tomorrow" strategy to protect, augment, and diversify the region's water supply portfolio, and to use innovative strategies and technologies to prepare for the future.

### **History of West Basin's Water Recycling Program**

West Basin's water recycling program was developed after severe droughts in the late 1980's and early 1990's which prompted the visionary West Basin Board of Directors to authorize the design and construction of a state-of-the-art water recycling treatment facility in the City of El Segundo. Through West Basin's partnerships with LA Sanitation and Environment, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the parties agreed to utilize treated wastewater (secondary effluent) discharged from Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant, to reduce demands on imported water throughout the South Bay in Los Angeles County. West Basin has recently been recognized nationally with the prestigious 2020 Utility of the Future Award.

Since it began producing recycled water in 1995, West Basin has cemented its status as one of the nation's leaders and innovators in recycled water. With four state-of-the-art recycled water treatment facilities, including the flagship Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility (ECLWRF) in El Segundo, West Basin has produced more than 250 billion gallons of recycled water in the last 25 years. The ECLWRF is the largest water recycling facility of its kind in the United States and was recognized by the National Water Research Institute in 2002 as one of only six national centers for water treatment technologies. The ECLWRF is the only treatment facility in the country that produces five different qualities of custom-made, "fit-for-purpose" recycled water that meet the unique needs of West Basin's municipal, commercial and industrial customers.

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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The success of the West Basin water recycling program is grounded in two primary philosophies. First, West Basin dedicates itself to ingenuity, utilizing the best treatment technologies and working closely with state and federal regulators to establish safe and protective health criteria and standards for each specific use of recycled water. This has allowed West Basin to ensure the region maximizes the use of recycled water. West Basin prides itself on its ability to meet the needs of each community, designing specific treatment processes to produce five customer-specific recycled water qualities for individual recycled water users.

Secondly, West Basin understands the importance of collaboration to accomplish regional and statewide goals. Through the development of West Basin's water recycling program, West Basin has formed numerous partnerships at the local, state and federal levels, which has allowed West Basin to expand its facility and production capabilities five different times, and to serve as a model for other water agencies that are exploring opportunities to produce or serve recycled water. Though there are many partners and agencies who have worked with and invested in West Basin's recycled water efforts, the support from Metropolitan and its investments through the LRP has been key to the program's success.

### **West Basin's Partnership with Metropolitan**

Since 1995, West Basin has operated under an LRP agreement to develop recycled water to reduce the demand on imported water supplies. Under the original agreement, West Basin and Metropolitan planned for a bright future, agreeing to an ultimate yield of 66,055 acre-feet per year (AFY), intended to offset the cost of expanding the ECLWRF to meet recycled water demand. The \$250/acre foot (AF) incentive under the agreement proved pivotal in West Basin's ability to enter into recycled water user agreements to increase recycled water demand, and ultimately resulted in West Basin's phase I-IV ECLWRF expansions.

Though the original agreement was later amended to reduce the contractual yield to 38,200 AFY, the ability to access LRP funds enabled West Basin to look for potential future growth of the ECLWRF. Utilizing the LRP incentive allowed West Basin to review the financial implications of new projects through a new lens. Seeking to identify high volume water users, West Basin embraced the opportunity to incentivize new potential recycled water customers utilizing a mix of local, state, and federal subsidies. With this in mind, West Basin entered into a second LRP agreement for its Phase V expansion. This enabled West Basin to expand production with an additional 7,971 AFY of recycled water for irrigation, additional supplies for the seawater intrusion barrier, and industrial water use.

### **2020 and the Future of LRP at West Basin**

Throughout the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, West Basin, like many other public agencies, has entered into a new era of conducting business in a virtual world. Under the Board's leadership, and with the help of a dedicated West Basin team, the District continues making significant progress on each of the West Basin programs, projects, and objectives. One project worth highlighting is the development of the West Basin Recycled Water Master Plan (RWMP). Initiated in 2020, the RWMP has been a collective team effort, seeking to identify potential new recycled water customers in, and surrounding the West Basin service area. This effort has included the participation of Metropolitan staff, as well as input from several Metropolitan member agencies, including the cities of Santa Monica, Torrance, Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, and Long Beach. Once completed in early 2021, West Basin will have an updated specific road map to achieve our long-term recycled water goals, by enhancing our local water supplies and reducing our reliance on imported water.

Further, West Basin has numerous water recycling project design and construction plans underway. This includes the future construction of the Palos Verdes Lateral Extension which will serve recycled water to the Palos Verdes Golf Course, as well as the expansion of the Juanita Millender-McDonald Carson Regional Water Recycling Facility, which will provide additional recycled water to the Marathon Oil Refinery in Carson, California. These two projects will enable West Basin in its effort to meet the contractual yield under the second LRP agreement.

To make these plans a reality, it is vital that West Basin maintain its partnership with Metropolitan and the LRP program. The LRP enables West Basin to ensure that each project is economically viable, and provides benefits to the entire Metropolitan service area, by further reducing the demand on imported water supplies. The future of the LRP is a crucial component in the development of local drought-proof water supplies to West Basin. Like many other Metropolitan member agencies, West Basin is looking forward to this continued partnership and support through the LRP.

Sincerely,

*Patrick Shields*

General Manager