



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2007

**MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
FACT SHEET**

Mayor Vetoes Council’s “Toilet to Tap” Plan

Mayor Jerry Sanders has vetoed the City Council’s action to direct the City of San Diego Water Department to design a pilot project for Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) or “toilet to tap” as it is commonly termed. The Mayor chose to veto the Council’s action for many reasons including:

- The public’s repeated rejections of attempts to implement IPR over the past 15 years
- Lack of funding for design and implementation of any IPR pilot project
- The need to saddle ratepayers with the third water rate increase in less than 12 months should Council demand the pilot project
- The high costs and small amount of water created by IPR
- The need to focus on water supply options that can be more quickly developed and implemented

“TOILET TO TAP” COSTS MORE THAN OTHER WATER SOURCES

Indirect potable reuse is not a silver bullet to fix all of the region’s water needs. Even a costly pilot project would take years to develop and would produce water far more expensive than other supplies.

Cost Comparison of Water (cost per Acre Foot)	
	Cost to City
Indirect Potable Reuse ¹	\$1,882*
Desalinated Water ²	\$1,400*
Raw Water ³	\$515
Potable Water ³	\$679

1 Source: Water Reuse Study, March 2006 – Indirect Potable Reuse costs are the combination of Advanced Treated Water and Tertiary Treatment (planning level numbers)

2 Cost estimates were extrapolated from SDCWA 2003 estimates

3 Source: San Diego County Water Authority budget document, Effective January 1, 2008

* Does not include eligible incentives or credits