



Santa Fe Irrigation District

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April 10, 2006

Ms. Marsi Steirer
Deputy Director, Water Policy and Strategic Planning
City of San Diego Water Department
600 B Street, Suite 700, MS 907
San Diego, CA 92101-4506

Dear Ms. Steirer:

Our agency, Santa Fe Irrigation District, has received a presentation about the Water Reuse Study 2005. This Study, which was requested by the San Diego City Council, has been researching options to increase the use of recycled water in the City. The Study's final report will be provided to the City Council for input and policy direction.

We understand that the Study has evaluated several options to maximize the use of recycled water that can be produced by the City's two water reclamation plants. Some options involve familiar uses of recycled water such as landscape irrigation, construction, and industrial processing. Other options involve using advanced water treatment technology to produce highly treated recycled water. This technology allows recycled water to be added to groundwater storage basins and water storage reservoirs so that it can help supplement other sources of drinking water.

Increasing the production and use of recycled water in the City will provide the following benefits to City residents and the San Diego area. Some of these benefits are:

- Decrease and offset the amount of water that must be imported into the City from hundreds of miles away and decrease the amount of treated wastewater that must be discharged into the ocean
- Help meet the water needs of population projections that indicate by 2030, the City could need 25 percent more water that it uses today
- Avoid drought restrictions on outdoor watering that could be mandated on imported water used for this purpose
- Provide a local source of water that can be used beneficially in a variety of ways

Santa Fe Irrigation District is supportive of the Water Department's Water Reuse Study 2005 in its efforts to analyze and evaluate all possible options to increase the production and use of recycled water in our community.

Sincerely,

Robert "Bud" Irvin
Board President