

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Water Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Water Dept. Launches New Pilot Program for Instant Hot Water Re-circulating Systems

SAN DIEGO – Conserving water and energy is the goal of a new pilot program designed to monitor the benefits of a new hot water re-circulating pump system. On Jan. 13, 2004, the San Diego Mayor and City Council granted the Water Department approval to begin this one-year pilot program. Participation in the program is currently open to qualifying single-family residential customers of the City of San Diego Water Department. The 10-15 homes selected to participate in the program will receive free systems.

"We're always in search of new services and programs that will make the most of our local water supply," states Chris Robbins, Supervising Management Analyst for the City's Water Conservation Program. "These innovative systems have the potential to provide our customers with significant water and energy savings, which could lead to savings in their utility bills."

Based on preliminary research, the system can save the average family a minimum of 15,000 gallons of water annually. In addition, the system only requires 33 watts of power. Systems can be easily installed under sinks, and as part of the pilot program the Water Department will reimburse participants for any installation costs. Funding for the program is provided by the "Innovative Conservation Program Grant", recently awarded to the Water Department by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Customers interested in volunteering for the pilot program should contact Kyrsten Rosenthal at the Water Department by calling (619) 533-4202 or emailing <u>KRosenthal@SanDiego.gov</u> no later than **Monday, Feb. 9**, to determine their eligibility. Please note that the number of available systems is limited and not all interested residents may be able to participate.

The Water Conservation Program reduces water demand through promoting or providing incentives for the installation of hardware that provides permanent water savings, and by providing services and information to help San Diegans make better decisions about water use. For more information about Water Conservation, visit <u>www.sandiego.gov/water</u> or call 619.515.3500.