



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

APRIL 1, 2009

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West Basin General Manager Rich Nagel Named WateReuse 'Water Advocate of the Year'

Carson, CALIF - Rich Nagel, General Manager for West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin), has received the 'Recycled Water Advocate of the Year' award from the California Section of the WateReuse Association. Nagel accepted the award this past week at the WateReuse Annual Conference titled "Purple, the New Green" in San Francisco, California. This award honors Nagel as an *individual who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of water recycling through the active support and promotion of recycled water.*

"I'm extremely honored and humbled and accept this award on behalf of our great West Basin team," said Nagel. "I'm fortunate to have an incredible group of people to work with every day and, together, we make sure we're providing a safe and reliable supply of high-quality water to the community."

Rich Nagel was selected by WateReuse for his success over the past 5 years in leading and guiding West Basin to produce and deliver a landmark 100 billion gallons of recycled water for beneficial use. He has also helped to shape the State Water Board's Recycled Water Policy and works diligently to bring together diverse groups to collaborate on recycled water projects. The support for his nomination demonstrates this, as Mayor Kelly McDowell of El Segundo, the National Water

Research Institute, Heal the Bay, Surfrider Foundation, and California Assembly Member Curren D. Price, Jr., all enthusiastically supported Rich Nagel's nomination.

"Rich Nagel has done more for water recycling in Southern California than anyone I know," said Edward C. Little, President of the West Basin Board of Directors. "This award is both appropriate and well-deserved."

Nagel is a water industry veteran, with over 20 years experience in the water supply and wastewater sectors. He was named General Manager by the West Basin Board of Directors in May 2006 and served as Co-General Manager for the West/Central Basins prior to that time. He became West Basin's District Manager of Water Quality in 2000, and has been responsible for all aspects of West Basin's Water Quality and Research programs, through collaborative meetings and discussions with numerous public and regulatory agencies on groundwater quality issues, remedial investigation activities and various water treatment studies, and overseeing numerous reports on groundwater studies and the effects of various contaminants.

Nagel leads West Basin in implementing its Water Reliability 2020 Program, its goal to reduce our region's dependence on imported water from 66 percent today to 33 percent by 2020. To accomplish this, West Basin will double its water recycling efforts, double conservation, and begin desalting ocean-water.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is committed to water reliability, water quality, sound financial and resource management, customer service and environmental stewardship. West Basin is a recognized, international leader in the production of recycled water, has won several awards for its leadership, water recycling and water resource management. West Basin provides 30 million gallons of recycled water throughout the South Bay each day, replacing enough precious drinking water to supply 60,000 households annually. For more information, visit www.westbasin.org.