

National Water Research Institute

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“Direct Potable Reuse” White Paper Now Available

A new White Paper published by the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) identifies key issues that would need to be addressed by regulatory agencies and utilities in California interested in pursuing direct potable reuse as a viable option to satisfy future water demands.

Direct potable reuse refers to the introduction of highly-treated recycled water into a potable water distribution system. Due to limitations in water resources, there is growing interest among water utilities, water-related associations, and environmental advocacy groups in California to pursue an assessment of research needs, regulatory requirements, and other factors for direct potable reuse to be considered as a source of water supply in the future.

Entitled “Regulatory Aspects of Direct Potable Reuse in California,” the NWRI White Paper highlights the following key regulatory issues that need to be resolved:

- Clarify what constitutes direct potable reuse versus indirect potable reuse.
- Compensate for the loss of an environmental buffer.
- Determine the number, type, and reliability of treatment processes necessary to serve as multiple barriers.
- Determine if dilution will be required as an added safety factor.
- Determine what monitoring requirements will be needed.
- Clarify the type and level of public health risk assessment needed.
- Determine if scientific peer review of direct potable reuse projects by independent advisory panels will be a requirement.
- Evaluate the applicability of existing drinking water statutes, regulations, policies, and permitting processes to direct potable reuse projects.
- Clarify the roles of regulatory agencies in providing oversight of direct potable reuse projects.
- Develop a communication system for the timely sharing of information between the operating and regulatory agencies to avoid the distribution of unsafe water.

The NWRI White Paper was prepared by James Crook, Ph.D., P.E., an environmental engineer with more than 37 years of experience in state government and consulting, including directing the California Department of Public Health’s water reuse program for 15 years.

Dr. Crook presented the NWRI White Paper at the Direct Potable Reuse Workshop held on April 26-27, 2010, by WateReuse California, California Urban Water Agencies, and NWRI. The NWRI White Paper was used to help identify regulatory and research needs by participants at the workshop. The outcome of this workshop (available this summer) will be a list of activities related to pursuing research related to direct potable reuse.

The NWRI White Paper can be downloaded at www.nwri-usa.org.

Training Available to Improve the Long-Term Performance of Utility Assets (Oakland)

Utility managers, are you interested in extending the life of your utility's assets? Would you like to optimize maintenance and renewal? What about developing long-term funding strategies?

NWRI, in partnership with the U.S. EPA and East Bay Municipal Utility District, is offering a 2-day training workshop in Oakland, CA, that will help proactive managers like you sustain the long-term performance of your water or wastewater utility through **advanced asset management techniques**, such as:

- Developing an asset registry
- Assessing performance and failure modes
- Determining life cycle and replacement costs
- Determining business risk
- Optimizing capital investments
- And more.

Designed by the U.S. EPA, this “hands-on” asset management training workshop will include:

- **Real-world storylines** to demonstrate advanced asset management as a way to approach difficult asset problems.
- **Participant exercises** to provide experience with the concepts, techniques, and tools of advanced asset management.
- **Case-based mentoring** with asset management experts.
- **Step-by-step demonstration** of how an agency would select and deploy best appropriate advanced asset management practices.

Expert instructors include:

- **Steve Allbee**
Steve Allbee has been with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for 28 years, during which time he has held several senior positions in the Office of Water. Currently, as Project Director of the Gap Analysis, he is the principal author of The Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure Gap Analysis. The “Gap Analysis” is a comprehensive national-level assessment that is often cited as a primary source document in articulating the challenges ahead for America's water and wastewater systems. Of late, the central point of his work is on promoting advanced asset management approaches as a pathway toward sustainable water and wastewater services for the twenty-first century.
- **Doug Stewart, P.E.**
Doug Stewart is a Principal Consultant for GHD Inc. He is also a former Asset Management Program Director at the Orange County Sanitation District, and has 25 years experience in engineering and 10 years in utility management.

Our next advanced asset management training workshop will be held **June 30-July 1, 2010**, at the East Bay Municipal Utility District in Oakland, California.

The workshop sponsors are:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- NWRI

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management Operation Certification Unit will provide up to fourteen (14) Continuing Education Units (Cues) for workshop participants.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Clean Water Program will provide one (1) educational unit for workshop participants.

The fee for early registration (by **June 23, 2010**) is \$275. After June 23, the registration fee will be \$300. Space is limited to 70 participants.

To register, or for more information (including the workshop brochure), please visit www.regonline.com/AssetMgt-Oakland.

Upcoming Events

2010 California Clean Innovation Conference (May 2010)

The 2010 California Clean Innovation Conference will be held on Friday, May 7, 2010, at the University of California, Los Angeles in Los Angeles, California.

The purpose of this 1-day conference is to provide a forum for entrepreneurs, investors, and managers to review current clean technology trends and commercially viable innovations, including the future of green technology.

A special panel will be held that will explore current conditions regarding water supply and purity, in particular the needs of Southern California. It will focus on (a) current and upcoming technologies to determine whether we have sufficient means to adequately address current and future concerns, and (b) business ventures that are actively pursuing methods to purify or treat water for our population.

Panelists will include:

- Bryan Bjorndal – CEO/President of Assure Controls
- Ron Chaffee – CEO of Ultraviolet Sciences
- Yoram Cohen – Director of UCLA's Water Technology Research Center
- Richard Atwater – CEO/General Manager of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency
- Rob Steiner – Co-Founder of Water Smart Software

Jeff Mosher, Executive Director of NWRI, will serve as the panel moderator.

For more information or to register, please visit <http://cacleaninnovation.com/>.

Orange County Water Summit (May 2010)

The 2010 Orange County Water Summit will be held on Friday, May 14, 2010, at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel and Resort in Anaheim, California.

Themed "Capture the Flow," the O.C. Water Summit will feature notable experts discussing topics such as the global perspective on water; emerging economic and societal trends related to water; innovations in water use efficiency; and more.

It is being presented by the Orange County Water District, Disneyland Resort, and Municipal Water District of Orange County.

For more information or to register, please visit www.mwdoc.com/OCWaterSummit.

Salton Sea Stakeholders' Symposium (May 2010)

The inaugural Salton Sea Stakeholders' Symposium will be held on Thursday, May 27, 2010, at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa in Indian Wells, California.

The purpose of this symposium is to bring together water agencies, businesses, cities, residents, tribes, farmers, school districts and environmental groups to find a sustainable solution to restoring the Salton Sea's water supply.

The symposium will be co-hosted by the Salton Sea Authority, Imperial Irrigation District, Valley Action Group, Coachella Valley Water District, NWRI, and many others.

For more information, please visit www.saltonseastakeholders.com or call (888) 289-9756.

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