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San Diego Regional Board Endorses SCSC Guidelines for Salinity/Nutrient Management Plans

In November 2010, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, passed a resolution endorsing the “Proposed Guidelines for Salinity/Nutrient Management Planning in the San Diego Region.”

Local agencies, water users, and other stakeholders in the San Diego region have been encouraged by the Regional Board to develop salinity/nutrient management plans required under the State of California Recycled Water Policy.

The proposed guidelines were developed by the Southern California Salinity Coalition (SCSC) and San Diego County Water Authority in coordination with interested agencies and local stakeholders to create a standardized approach and framework for developing salinity/nutrient management plans within the San Diego region.

The guidelines allow for:

- Greater consistency between basin-specific salinity/nutrient management plans developed within the San Diego region.
- Improved focus and increased efficiency in the preparation of San Diego region salinity/nutrient management plans.
- Increased local agency confidence and decreased regulatory uncertainty in the salinity/nutrient management process.
- Increased local agency participation in the salinity/nutrient management planning effort.
- Increased stakeholder involvement.
- Increased efficiency in the regulatory review of developed salinity/nutrient plans.
- Increased probability for regulatory approval of developed salinity/nutrient management plans.
- Decreased regulatory conflicts with the development of local water and recycled water supplies within the San Diego region.

Written by Michael Welch, a consulting engineer and former staff member of the San Diego Regional Board, the 102-page guidelines include sections on constituents of concern, aquifer characterization, proposed planning approach and priorities, and salinity management tasks.

The guidelines are available to download from the SCSC website at www.socalsalinity.org.

SCSC was founded in 2002 by a group of Southern California water and wastewater agencies to better manage salinity in our water supplies. SCSC's member agencies include the Eastern

Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Water District, San Diego County Water Authority, Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, and West Basin Municipal Water District. NWRI administers SCSC on behalf of its members.

West Basin Receives “NWRI Award of Excellence” for Desalination Demo Facility

West Basin Municipal Water District of Carson, California, was the fourth recipient of the “NWRI Award of Excellence” for its groundbreaking contribution to ocean water desalination research and dedicated efforts to create a new, locally controlled sustainable water supply.

NWRI established the Award of Excellence in 2000 to recognize projects throughout the world that demonstrate leadership in the application of technology to improve water supplies, protect public health, and enhance the value of water.

To diversify its water supplies, West Basin implemented “Water Reliability 2020,” an innovative and forward-thinking program to reduce dependence on less reliable imported water supplies to coastal Los Angeles from 66 percent to 33 percent by the year 2020. As part of this effort, West Basin constructed a new Ocean-Water Desalination Demonstration Facility to utilize ocean protection technology at the source of intake and discharge.

The Ocean-Water Desalination Demonstration Facility is conducting pioneering research on ocean withdrawal and concentrate management methods that protect the ocean environment, as well as testing plant operation optimization and energy efficiency and minimization. In addition, it includes an interactive educational center – the first of its kind in California – to teach an estimated 10,000 visitors a year about the benefits of reliable water supplies, including conservation, recycling, and ocean water desalination.

Phil Anthony, a Board Member of NWRI and the Orange County Water District, presented the NWRI Award of Excellence, in the form of a plaque, to West Basin on the dedication of the Ocean-Water Desalination Demonstration Facility and Education Center on November 12, 2010.

Past recipients of the NWRI Award of Excellence include the Orange County Water District and Orange County Sanitation District for developing the Groundwater Replenishment System, the largest advanced water purification system in the world for indirect potable reuse (2006); the Honolulu Board of Water Supply for groundbreaking efforts to use membrane bioreactors to enhance water resources (2004); and the Public Utilities Board in Singapore for pioneering research with membrane technology to create a new source of potable water called NEWater (2002).

Call for Abstracts: Fourth IWA Specialty Conference on Natural Organic Matter

Abstracts are welcome for the Fourth IWA Specialty Conference on “Natural Organic Matter: From Source to Tap and Beyond,” which will be held on July 27-29, 2011, in Costa Mesa, California.

The conference is being hosted and organized by:

- International Water Association (IWA)

- Urban Water Research Center at the University of California, Irvine
- National Water Research Institute
- Southeast Environmental Research Center, Florida International University
- Centre for Water Science, Cranfield University

The purpose of this 3-day conference on natural organic matter (NOM) is to bring together a diverse group of scientists and engineers who are interested in better understanding the dynamics and impacts of NOM. Because of the increased importance of water reuse, conference discussions will also include effluent organic matter (EfOM).

Abstract Details

Applicants are invited to submit a 500-word (or less) abstract for an oral or poster presentation at the conference. Student oral and poster presentations are also welcome. An award will be given for the best student poster.

Topics include:

- Molecular characterization of NOM
- Catchment and source management
- Monitoring
- Removal strategies
- Membranes and membrane treatment
- Environmental fate, transport, and transformation
- Disinfection byproducts
- Coastal waters and oceanic carbon cycling
- Wetlands and groundwater
- Photochemistry
- Advanced oxidation processes
- Remote sensing of NOM in water
- NOM in extreme environments
- New ideas

You may also suggest additional areas that relate to NOM in drinking water, wastewater, recycled waters, natural waters, and marine systems.

Abstracts must be submitted by **January 21, 2011**, for consideration.

If selected, authors will be encouraged to submit an 8- to 15-page manuscript for inclusion in the conference proceedings. Authors must meet their own expenses to attend the conference.

Complete guidelines for abstract submission, including the downloadable "Abstract Submittal Form," may be found at the conference website at www.regonline.com/NOM2011.

Register Now for the Managed Aquifer Recharge Symposium

Registration is open for the "2011 Managed Aquifer Recharge Symposium," which will be held on January 25-26, 2011, at the Atrium Hotel Orange County Airport in Irvine, CA.

Symposium sponsors include:

- Water Research Foundation (WaterRF)
- Orange County Water District

- National Water Research Institute

The purpose of this 2-day symposium is to discuss and exchange information about managed aquifer recharge issues. The focus will be on technical and policy issues regarding augmenting aquifers through **recharge basins** with surface waters, including river water, recycled water, and storm water.

Topic areas include:

- Recharge Basin Performance.
- Recharge Basin Operations.
- Modeling of Recharge Basin Performance.
- Basin Optimization.
- Facility Planning and Engineering.
- Innovative Recharge Ideas.
- Research.
- Operational Experience.

Registration fees are as follows:

\$275	Academics
\$275	Agency representatives (utilities and government)
\$350	Consultants, manufacturers, and vendors
\$50	Students
\$400	Onsite registration

For more information or to register for the symposium, please visit the symposium website at www.regonline.com/rechargesymposium.

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