

## NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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### **KEVIN HARDY JOINS NWRI AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

*Former wastewater utility general manager now leads water research nonprofit*

**FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif.** – Nationally recognized executive leader Kevin Hardy has joined the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) as its new Executive Director, taking charge of a nonprofit organization focused on supporting innovative scientific research and activities to improve the quality of our water supplies and increase available sources of water.

Hardy's background in public service begins with a Master's degree in Public Administration from San Diego State University and a J.D. from the School of Law at the University of San Diego. Within the water sector, he served 7 years as General Manager and 14 years as an executive of the Encina Wastewater Authority, a public agency that provides recycled water, resource recovery, and wastewater treatment services in San Diego County, California. In addition, he was past President of both the California Association of Sanitation Agencies and the California Sanitation Risk Management Authority.

"Kevin is a great fit for NWRI," said James Ferryman, President of the NWRI Board of Directors. "He is a successful strategic planner and he is very personable, both of which are traits essential for leading an organization as collaborative as NWRI. Significantly, he also understands the practical, day-to-day needs of utilities – and NWRI was formed by water and wastewater utilities to help them solve scientific and technical problems that they could not tackle alone. No doubt Kevin will strengthen NWRI's already excellent reputation as a trusted source of information and expertise in the water industry."

Since its establishment in 1991, NWRI has leveraged funding through collaborative partnerships that support research and education in areas such as recycled water, desalination, treatment technologies, sustainable water practices, and others. Much of NWRI's recent work has revolved around planned potable reuse, in which treated wastewater is used to augment public water supplies. NWRI also awards the Athalie Richardson Irvine Clarke Prize each year for outstanding achievements in water science. The Prize – a \$50,000 check and medallion – is the highlight of NWRI's annual Clarke Prize Conference.

"This opportunity with NWRI is really exciting, and I confidently look forward to the challenges of this unique job," Hardy said. "It is rare to work on critical issues with colleagues whom you respect and who inspire you and, at the same time, have a hand in creating the future, especially for something as important as water."

Hardy has already identified several goals for the nonprofit under his leadership, such as working with policymakers to continue developing regulations for potable reuse; building upon

relationships with public and private agencies; and facilitating NWRI's well-established expert panel program to help guide technological innovation and policies that shape the future of water in the United States.

A native of Michigan with deep Southern California roots, Hardy will be the third Executive Director of NWRI, following Jeffrey Mosher (2005-2016) and Ronald Linsky (1991-2005). He may be reached at [khardy@nwri-usa.org](mailto:khardy@nwri-usa.org) or (714) 378-3278.

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*The National Water Research Institute (NWRI) was founded in 1991 by a group of Southern California water agencies in partnership with the Joan Irvine Smith and Athalie R. Clarke Foundation to promote the protection, maintenance, and restoration of water supplies and to protect the freshwater and marine environments through the development of cooperative research work. NWRI's member agencies include Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Irvine Ranch Water District, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Water District, and West Basin Municipal Water District. Please visit [www.nwri-usa.org](http://www.nwri-usa.org) for more information.*