



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SRCSD Selected for Two Federal Grants to Study Water Recycling Projects in Region

SACRAMENTO – Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) has been selected to receive funding for two grants from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART program. The grants will assist SRCSD in studying new uses for recycled water in the Sacramento region.

Grants of \$75,000 each will help study the feasibility of two specific projects. The first project is the South Sacramento County Agriculture and Habitat Lands Recycled Water Project that could irrigate up to 27,000 acres of permanent agriculture, habitat mitigation, and conservation lands in south Sacramento County. This project has the potential to be one of the largest water recycling projects in the State and would make significant contributions toward reaching the State’s water recycling goals.

The second project would deliver recycled water to a Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) cogeneration plant at the Campbell Soup facility in the City of Sacramento. This project would be in conjunction with the City and the Sacramento Power Authority, a joint powers authority formed by SMUD and the SMUD Financing Authority.

Both projects are in early stages of feasibility review. While the grants will not fund the entire cost of the feasibility studies, SRCSD District Engineer Stan Dean explained that award of the feasibility study grants is important for consideration of future construction grants. “These initial grants mean the Bureau of Reclamation believes there’s real merit in these projects, and we’re optimistic for further federal support,” stated Dean.

Strong support for these grants was offered by Sacramento’s Congressional delegation including Representatives Doris Matsui and John Garamendi, and Senator Barbara Boxer. “I applaud SRCSD for being proactive and finding ways to help with California’s water problems; and was pleased to support their application for funding,” stated Congresswoman Matsui. Congressman Garamendi said that “California simply does not presently have enough available water to meet the needs of everyone in the state. We must invest in American-made water recycling - along with conservation and additional storage - and that's why I'm excited by these projects.”

The WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow) program is designed to foster local partnerships and support innovative solutions to the water challenges of the future. Further information about these grants can be found at www.usbr.gov/WaterSMART/title/.

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