



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
2/24/2020

Contact:
Angelina Mancillas,
Manager of External Affairs
Tel: 562-275-4231
Email: Amancillas@wrd.org

WRD's Albert Robles Center Reaches New Milestone

Water Replenishment District receives approval to begin delivering advanced treated water to the Montebello Forebay Spreading Grounds.

(Pico Rivera, CA)- The Water Replenishment District (WRD) is now delivering advanced treated recycled water from the Albert Robles Center for Water Recycling and Environmental Learning (ARC) to the Los Angeles County Montebello Forebay Spreading Grounds. Following a rigorous permitting process by The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, WRD has been granted the approval that allows the district to spread advanced treated water which will eventually become potable water.

ARC is WRD's landmark facility that will ensure a completely locally sustainable source of water for groundwater replenishment. This facility, opened in August of 2019, produces 14 million gallons a day of advanced treated water which will then be used to replenish groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins. Water from these basins provides 50% of the drinking water for the over 4-million residents who reside in Southern Los Angeles County.

WRD's Albert Robles Center is the cornerstone of WRD's Water Independence Now (WIN) initiative which is aimed at reducing the strain on imported water from Northern California and the Colorado River by developing local recycled water into a resilient and drought-proof supply of water for groundwater replenishment. With its completion, WRD can provide half of the drinking water for the over 4 million residents from its service area without using a drop of imported water.

"The Water Replenishment District is proud of this accomplishment which enables us to reduce the strain on imported water" said WRD Board President Vera Robles DeWitt, "Several years of persistent drought have taught us that we cannot wait for disaster to strike. We must take action now to create locally sustainable and resilient water solutions. I'm proud to lead this forward thinking Board as we continue to create innovative water solutions for our service area."

"ARC will replace nearly 7 billion gallons of imported water every year," said Director Katherman, Treasurer of the WRD Board of Directors. "This project not only helps WRD drought-proof our water supply, it also give the region access to an affordable source of local water. This project is an investment in Southern Los Angeles County's water future."



From Left to Right: President Vera Robles DeWitt, Director John Allen, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, and Director Rob Katherman drink a sample of advanced treated water from the Albert Robles Center for Water Recycling and Environmental Learning.

The Water Replenishment District is the largest groundwater agency in the State of California, managing and protecting local groundwater resources for four million residents. WRD's service area covers a 420-square-mile region of southern Los Angeles County, the most populated county in the United States. The 43 cities in the service area, including a portion of the City of Los Angeles, use about 250,000 acre-feet (82 billion gallons) of groundwater annually which accounts for approximately half of the region's water supply.