South Coast Water District Board of Directors has certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Phase I Local Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, which would produce up to 5 million gallons per day (MGD) of new, drinking water supplies for the area.

Sixteen years after the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) and six other local water agencies first began studying the possibility of placing an ocean desalination plant at Doheny Beach, SCWD certified the EIR. MWDOC undertook years of hydrogeologic studies, slant well pilot tests, engineering feasibility reports, extended pumping, and a test slant well before SCWD took over the project in 2015.

Once permitted and constructed, the project will provide a safe, high quality, locally controlled and drought-proof water supply for the SCWD service area, while protecting the environment. It will also provide emergency water supplies should an earthquake, system shutdown, or another event disrupt the delivery of imported water to the south OC region. Currently, the District is approximately 85 to 100% dependent on imported water from the Sierra Nevadas or the Colorado River for drinking water.

The desalination plant will serve to further strengthen and diversify SCWD’s water supply portfolio. SCWD’s current portfolio includes significant quantities of water use efficiency (conservation), recycled water, and brackish groundwater recovery. MWDOC General Manager Rob Hunter congratulated SCWD on its aggressive and effective water use efficiency programs and results: “You reached your 2020 State Water goals in 2016. When the State required you to cut 24%, you did 30%. When the State required a conservation stress test for 10%, you did 20%. Even now, post-drought, you are at 23%.” Mr. Hunter also congratulated SCWD on its water loss program that has resulted in a system loss rate of less than 4% (amongst the best in the State).

SCWD continues to maximize its recycled water production while treating brackish water at the Groundwater Recovery Facility. Depending on hydrological conditions, the facility can produce up to 1.8 million gallons per day (MGD). The desalination plant will continue to serve as a source of emergency water supplies should an earthquake, system shutdown, or another event disrupt the delivery of imported water to the south OC region.
The Orange County Water District is mourning the passing of former Director Irv Pickler who died on July 17 at the age of 98. Pickler served on the OCWD Board of Directors from 1992 through 2002 and 2007 through 2012. According to OCWD President Vicente Sarmiento, “Director Pickler proudly represented the city of Anaheim and performed his duties with great diligence. My fellow board members, staff and I will miss his great sense of humor and genuine enthusiasm for serving his community. His decades of public service and broad experience, resolving complex municipal and water issues within the District and the state, served OCWD well.”

Former Director Pickler was very knowledgeable about the complexities of groundwater management, creating new water supplies and sustaining local and state water supplies. His expertise was invaluable to the District. Pickler was instrumental in bringing Anaheim and OCWD together to create Anaheim Coves at Burris Basin. Without compromising water production, under Pickler’s leadership, OCWD worked diligently to come up with a way to allow its property to also serve an important need for open space and recreation in Anaheim. OCWD provided the city of Anaheim access to 14 acres of open space for Anaheim Coves and an additional six acres for the Northern Extension, which opened in June 2019, for a total of 20 acres.

As a Director, Irv Pickler also represented OCWD as its president from 1998-2000 and from 1997 to 2002 served as chairman of the Steering Committee of the Groundwater Replenishment System, the world’s largest advanced water purification facility of its kind, which now produces 100 million gallons per day of drinking water for 2.5 million people in north and central Orange County.

“On behalf of staff and the Board of Directors of the Orange County Water District, we extend our heartfelt sympathies to Irv’s family,” added Sarmiento. “Irv led an exemplary life, dedicated to making his community a better place by bringing together local government, community-based organizations and public agencies to maximize resources and implement much needed community

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SCWD Certifies Desalination EIR

Continued from Page 1

to 15% of SCWD’s water supply. The SCWD Board has also committed to a 20 percent partnership in Phase 1 of the San Juan Watershed Project, which will utilize rubber dam technology to capture and recharge stormwater flows as an additional, new drinking water supply. This project is being led by the Santa Margarita Water District.

The Final Environmental Impact Report was praised by Laguna Beach resident and South Laguna Water & Sewer Advisory Committee Chairperson, Eric Jessen, who said, “I really want to compliment the staff that completed these EIR documents; these are the best environmental documents I have ever seen.”

MWDOC Board member Megan Yoo Schneider said she found the process fascinating to watch. “You have kept the process so open and transparent, it has become an avenue for collaboration.” She continued, “You have shown foresight and investment into our future. The cost of not investing in our reliability is far more than any cost we will invest in today.” As the MWDOC director of Division 7, Ms. Schneider represents the cities of Aliso Viejo, Dana Point, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Mission Viejo, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano.

SCWD has filed its Notice of Determination and will begin the permitting process with various agencies. If permitting is successful, the SCWD would then consider a Design-Build-Operate contract for approval. At best, the Doheny Ocean Desalination project could be operational by December 2022.

To learn more on the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project and to follow its process, visit SCWD’s website www.scwd.org/desal.
Mr. Thompson will detail OCSD’s use of advanced asset management methodology to continually improve its facilities to meet new needs and requirements. Under this approach, OCSD refurbishes or replaces all of its drainage areas and plant processes on a 20 to 80 year cycle, assuring that all facilities remain in excellent condition. This ensures the District will always exceed proper capacity while it continues to utilize the most appropriate technologies, thus guaranteeing it will meet all anticipated regulatory requirements.

This promises to be an exceptional presentation, addressing many of the most critical aspects of the District’s operations. Join us for what will be an informative, educational look at critical facilities that are integral to our county’s health and welfare.

About Our Speaker

Robert (Rob) Thompson is the assistant general manager (AGM) for the Orange County Sanitation District (OCSD). As the AGM, he oversees the Operations & Maintenance and Engineering departments. Previously, he served as the Director of Engineering.

Mr. Thompson came to OCSD in 1995 as an Engineer in Operations and Maintenance. He has served in many capacities for OCSD including: Manager of the Process Controls Division to oversee the maintenance, installation and programming of OCSD’s SCADA system and programmable logic controllers; Engineering Manager overseeing the instrumentation shops, electrical shops and power generation plants; and Engineering Manager overseeing Asset Management and Engineering Planning.

Prior to joining OCSD, Mr. Thompson worked for The Ralph M. Parsons Company as a senior engineer and project manager on several major oil field projects in Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, refinery projects in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and coordinated world-wide sulfur technology sales.

Mr. Thompson is a registered Electrical Engineer and Civil Engineer in the States of California and Washington. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering from Cal Poly Pomona, and a Master of Public Administration degree from Long Beach State.

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Dave & Buster’s Restaurant  Irvine Spectrum Entertainment Center

11:30 am: Registration  12:00 – 1:30: Lunch & Presentation

OCWA Members with Reservations...... $30  Non-Members with Reservations........ $45
OCWA Members without Reservations... $45  Non-Members without Reservations...... $45

Reservations must be made by EOB, Tuesday, July 16, to qualify for the Reservation Rate.
Cancellations received AFTER this date CANNOT be refunded.

To make reservations, please go to the OCWA website:  www.ocwater.org

For more information, contact Leticia Villarreal at (714) 378-3201
Please identify yourself by name and membership number.

RSVP IS A FINANCIAL COMMITMENT.  NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED
Irvine Lake to Reopen August 17

In March 2016, Irvine Lake was closed due to a conflict between Orange County and Serrano Water District regarding recreation rights. The area was once a popular spot for outdoor recreation, but has since become a fenced off and overgrown haven for water birds.

Recently, Orange County Supervisor Don Wagner took control of negotiations to reach a deal to restore fishing and other recreational rights stating that, “Political infighting has stalled the usage of this lake, but thanks to the Irvine Company’s generous move, the County is finally in a position with Irvine Lake, Serrano Water District, and Irvine Ranch to bring back fishing for public enjoyment.”

The generous move Wagner was referring to was the Irvine Company’s donation of 29 lake-front acres of land to Orange County on June 11, 2019. Thanks to the Irvine Company, the lake will open for fishing on August 17. All parties worked together to develop a plan for a one-year shoreline fishing agreement.

The current agreement only allows fishing from the shore. Negotiations for additional recreational activities, including boating, will take place at a later date with the hopes of eventually opening the area to camping and hiking. Because Irvine Lake stores potable water used to supply the cities of Villa Park and Orange, bodily contact is not allowed.
This annual event provides a great opportunity for quality continuing education, a chance to gather information on new products and learn more about current technologies directly from the experts, and an excellent opportunity to socialize with others in the industry.

This Specialized CE Training and Vendor Exhibition ranks among OCWA’s Premier Events, and the Tapping Competition is a great way to build teamwork and meet others.

Space Goes Quickly so Sign-Up ASAP. You won’t want to miss it!

Thursday, September 19, 2019
7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Rattlesnake Reservoir
4769 Portola Parkway, Irvine

★ Vendor Exhibits .................. All Day
★ Vendor Set-Up .................. 7:00 am
★ Operator Training ‘Check In’ ...... 7:30 am to 8 am
★ Operator Training (2 Sessions) ..... 8 am to 10 am
★ Pipe Tapping Competition ......... 10 am to Noon
★ Horseshoe Competition ........ 10 am to Noon
★ CATERED BBQ LUNCH ................. Noon to 1 pm
★ Opportunity Drawing ................. 1 pm

Catered Lunch: Tickets: $45.00 each

Door Prizes needed; please bring to event.
Sponsorship Opportunities are Available:
Sponsor: $200.00 ★ Exhibitor: $300.00

Sponsors receive recognition at the event, have their name on a banner, and are recognized in the OCWA newsletter.

Reservations can be made on the OCWA website: www.ocwater.org
or you may email Bobby Young at byoung@etwd.com

Remember: SIGN UP NOW!
Sponsor & Exhibitor Opportunities available for

Orange County Water Association
Operator Expo
Product Exhibitions & Team Competitions

Thursday, September 19, 2019
7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Set-Up Begins at 7 a.m.)
Rattlesnake Reservoir • 4769 Portola Parkway, Irvine

☐ YES! I would like to participate in the OCWA Annual Exhibition and Operator Training Event

I wish to participate as:

☐ Exhibitor ($300*)

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Product or Service Displayed

*Exhibitors receive covered exhibitor space for set-up and display (please let us know if you have any special needs or requirements), prominent listing in all on-line and associated advertising, and lunch for all participants.

☐ Sponsor ($200**)

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**Sponsors will be prominently displayed in all on-line and associated advertising, as well as be listed on event-day signage.

Enclosed, please find a check payable to Orange County Water Association in the amount of: ____________________________

Mail this form, with your check, to:

Orange County Water Association
P.O. Box 51404 • Irvine, California 92619-1404

Please respond by Thursday, September 5, 2019, to ensure adequate space is available.

Questions? Please contact Bobby Young, (949) 837-7050, or via email at: byoung@etwd.com
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

62nd Annual Christmas & Holiday Party

Friday, December 6, 2019

6:00 Cocktails ✴ 7:30 Dinner
Casino Night & Slot Cars ‘til 11:00

We’re returning to the extraordinary venue we had such fun at the last few years!

Marconi Automotive Museum
1302 Industrial Drive ✴ Tustin

Vintage cars, luxurious decor, fabulous food, and of course, everyone’s favorite: Slot Cars!

Additional Tables of 10 are available for $800
Individual Tickets are available for $90
Seating is Limited and will go fast!

Those who bring an unwrapped toy donation will receive a Free Raffle Ticket!
Donated toys will be distributed by the Marconi Foundation for Kids

Checkered Flag - $2,500 or more
Includes: 1 Table for 10, Prominent Logo Displays, 3 Sponsor Provided Slides Rolling During Event, and Slot Car Sponsorship!

Team Owner - $1,500 or more
Includes: 1 Table for 10, Prominent Logo Displays, and Sponsor Provided Slide Rolling During Event!

Pit Crew - $500 or more
Part of Group Logo Display!

For Sponsorship Opportunities, contact Bobby Young at byoung@etwd.com
Sponsorships received by October 18, 2019 will be displayed on both our website and on event announcements

For Additional Information, visit www.ocwater.org
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO OCWA AT P.O. BOX 51404, IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92619-1404
ARSENAL IN THE WATER INDUSTRY IN ORANGE COUNTY?
If yes, then consider becoming a member of the Orange County Water Association (OCWA).
OCWA mission is to foster advancement in the Water Works Industry, set high standards for potable water, exchange ideas and work for standard policies and procedures of mutual help during water emergencies, disseminate information for the education of the general public in the use of water and its value to civilization and aid in water research.

ORANGE COUNTY WATER ASSOCIATION BY THE NUMBERS

OVER 230 MEMBERS

120+ Companies Represented

SAVE $100+/yr with membership event discounts

45+ AGENCIES REPRESENTED

50+ YEARS OF SERVICE TO ORANGE COUNTY

AS A MEMBER OF OCWA YOU WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS

Build Your Network

- Monthly Meetings: Reduced fees for our monthly meetings which provide an opportunity to hear from local leaders on new and innovative projects, and meet other local water industry professionals.
- Annual Holiday Party: The annual holiday party brings together over 200+ members and guests.
- Annual Golf Tournament: This member only event draws 100+ water professionals. The event features prizes and a non-scrum format.
- Expand Your Contacts: Members gain access to OCWA’s vast member directory.

Advance Your Career

- Board Positions: Earn a position on the Board to gain leadership.
- Gain Visibility: Gain opportunities to present your agency/company’s projects or programs to our local network.
- Committee Positions: As a member, consider joining one of various committees.

Education and Training Opportunities

- Monthly Newsletter: Jobs, projects, local water news, regulatory and legislative updates each month.
- Safetyfest: Earn CEUs from State approved training sessions.
- Annual BBQ: This Operator Training Event, offers CEUs, over 20 vendor exhibitions, and a Pipe Tapping Contest.

To join OCWA visit our website at: ocwater.org/join-us
Mesa Water District (Mesa Water®) is pleased to announce that Director James R. ("Jim") Fisler was elected to the Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO) as a Special District voting member. In this vital role, he will represent the mutual interests of Orange County’s water, wastewater, sanitary, cemetery, library, vector control, recreation and parks, and other special districts that provide services to their communities.

Director Fisler previously served as OC LAFCO’s Special District Alternate Commissioner, having been elected by the Independent Special District Selection Committee in 2011, and re-elected in 2014 and 2018.

“I am deeply committed to supporting the economical, effective and efficient delivery of government services to the public by cities, special districts, and the County of Orange in unincorporated areas. The OC LAFCO Commission consists of seven voting members, including two members from Orange County’s Board of Supervisors, two council members from Orange County cities, two board members from Orange County special districts, and one Orange County public member.

Director Fisler was appointed to Mesa Water’s Board of Directors in August 2009, elected in 2010, and re-elected in 2012 and 2016. He represents Division 2, encompassing the Mesa Verde area in Costa Mesa.

Director Fisler served as Board President from 2012 to 2014, and he currently serves as Chairman of Mesa Water’s Finance Committee and as Vice Chairman of its Legislative & Public Affairs Committee.

In addition to serving on Mesa Water’s Board, Director Fisler serves the Association of California Water Agencies as a member of its Local Government Committee. Director Fisler also serves as Immediate Past President of the Independent Special Districts of Orange County.

Director Fisler will be officially sworn in by OC LAFCO at its next regularly scheduled meeting on August 14.