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IEUA Receives Honors from the California Sustainability Alliance for its Outstanding Leadership in Sustainability

Inland Empire - The Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) is pleased to announce that the California Sustainability Alliance has recognized IEUA as an outstanding leader in sustainability with its first *Excellence in Sustainability Award*. The Alliance recently launched the Sustainability Showcase award program to highlight the efforts of California individuals and organizations that are paving the way to California's sustainable future.

"IEUA's vision is to promote water conservation, water recycling, groundwater management, organic composting, renewable energy, and overall environmental stewardship in partnership with the communities we serve," stated IEUA CEO/General Manager Richard W. Atwater.

For years, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency's Board of Directors has been "Leading" the way with green technologies. In 2003, IEUA's administrative headquarters became the largest and first public building to receive the Platinum rating from the United States Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). "The headquarters facility demonstrates how using recycled building materials and state-of-the-art energy efficiency can create a better environment, save water, and contribute to the restoration of native landscapes," said Atwater. In 2003, the headquarters received the *Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award*.

Another IEUA award winning project is the "dairy waste to energy" project that converts local dairy manure and food waste to a renewable energy that is used to produce electricity for the Chino Basin 1 Desalter that delivers approximately 12 ½ million gallons of high quality water each day. The Solids Handling Facility was the recipient of the *Governor's 2002 Environmental and Economic Leadership Award*. IEUA was also the first in the nation to sell Greenhouse Gas Credits generated through "Cow Power" in California, as well as being the first to sell renewable energy credits from California cow power.

IEUA recently installed over 3.5 megawatts of solar power at three of its water treatment plants and at the Inland Empire Regional Composting Facility. Solar is a proven green technology. It is 100% renewable. It is emission free, helping to combat global warming. The environmental benefits of the solar panels being installed at IEUA facilities is equivalent to removing 739 cars each year from our streets and highways. “Two-thirds of IEUA’s power is now being generated from renewable sources through our solar and biogas projects,” stated Atwater.

For more information, please call Sondra Elrod at 909 993-1747 or visit IEUA’s website at www.ieua.org.

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The California Sustainability Alliance is bringing together all of the key stakeholders needed to overcome barriers to sustainability. Together, we are developing strategies to harvest the next generation of energy efficiency, building on the momentum created through complementary sustainability initiatives such as climate action, smart growth, renewable energy, water-use efficiency, waste management, and transportation management.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency is a municipal water district located in western San Bernardino County, California. The Agency’s mission is to supply imported drinking water and recycled water, to collect and treat wastewater, and provide other utility-related services to the 850,000 residents living within its service area.