

Cucamonga Valley Water District Receives American Society of Civil Engineering Award

Rancho Cucamonga, CA – On October 14, 2008, the Cucamonga Valley Water District received notice from the American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE), San Bernardino and Riverside Counties Chapter, they would be recognized in the ASCE annual awards program. The ASCE Project of the Year is an award given out by various chapters of this nation-wide organization. The Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD/ District) received Honorable Mention in the Project of the Year category for their Lloyd W. Michael Water Treatment Plant Boosting Chain Project.

The CVWD's Lloyd W. Michael Water Treatment Plant (Treatment Plant) provides water throughout the service area. CVWD wanted to better support the Treatment Plant by providing a backup water supply to the plant. There were several reasons this Project was significant for CVWD. These included planned and emergency pipeline shutdowns of the Metropolitan Water District's (MWD) Rialto Feeder, anticipation of MWD's Dry Year Yield Program, and potential drought reductions in State Project water.

The Boosting Chain Project required the CVWD to construct two booster pump stations and install steel pipe to transport water to the Plant to provide the flexibility to move groundwater from CVWD's wells in the southern portion of the service area to the upper northern portions of the service area.

“One of the core drivers of this project was to construct a system that provided reliable water supply to CVWD customers,” commented John Bosler, Director of Engineering for CVWD. “This Project allows CVWD to reduce the use of imported state water, a key component to long-term stability in our region as well as the state, and allows CVWD to better utilize local water supplies.”

The Project was unique in both design and construction and was set on a fast track schedule for completion, beginning in September 2007 and completed by February 2008, with the plan to operate the facility on generator power by February 2008 for a planned MWD pipeline shutdown. CVWD's in-house engineering staff completed the planning and civil/mechanical/process design of the project, and served as construction managers, performed construction inspection, and acted as the general contractor.

The project presented challenges during construction. These included construction occurring in front of two schools and the need to minimize impacts on the community. In order to do so, the CVWD contractor was required to perform a major feat, installing 2,300 linear feet of 24-inch pipe in ten days. The contractor committed crews to the project and exceeded expectations by installing 4,700 linear feet of pipeline during the ten day period. Construction on the Boosting Chain Project was a partnership between CVWD staff and the Contractor with time saving ideas implemented in order to keep the project on track.

“This Project was a success because CVWD and the contractor stayed focused and kept a ‘can do’ attitude that it could be accomplished,” stated James V. Curatalo, Jr., President of the CVWD Board of Directors. “Project’s like this continue to support the District’s mission of providing a reliable water source for all customers, and CVWD will continue to identify these types of projects in the future.”

CVWD imports over 50% of the District’s water from northern California, so constructing this infrastructure to supply additional water to the Treatment Plant was critical. For more information about the CVWD, please visit <http://www.cvwdwater.com> or call (909) 987-2591.