



**For Immediate Release:
April 27, 2009**

Inland Empire Utilities Agency's General Manager Testifies Before Congress

Inland Empire - On Tuesday, April 28, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency's (IEUA) General Manager, Richard W. Atwater, will testify before the Subcommittee on Water and Power/Committee on Natural Resources on the importance that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is to local water agencies for the expansion of innovative recycling and desalting technologies to reuse existing water supplies.

The Obama Administration has made green infrastructure a high priority for creating new jobs. Water recycling and reuse project construction assistance is one of the best ways to address the current economic downturn by creating jobs immediately - and with the California drought - helping to avoid water shortages. It will help local communities that have been hit hard by the current recession, generate jobs immediately and those jobs will create projects that sustain long-term economic activity.

"We are grateful for the recent announcement that the Department of the Interior will provide \$135 million to support water recycling construction projects," stated IEUA Board President Terry Catlin. "This decision means that drought starved communities and regions, where the recession has been particularly devastating to local economies, are now in a position to address two problems at once. IEUA is pleased to submit testimony to Congress on the economic benefits of water recycling in southern California," continued Catlin.

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation to be able to address Congress on this important funding that includes a number of vital water project authorizations that set the stage for increased water supply facilities," stated Atwater. "IEUA and its local water agencies are 'shovel ready' to begin construction on its recycled water projects as early as this July."

"IEUA and its local water agencies appreciates the support from our Congressional delegation, Senators Feinstein and Boxer, and House of Representatives, Napolitano, Baca, Calvert, Dreier, Lewis and Miller for their continued leadership and vision that recycling and reusing water is the most significant new water supply available to address our serious water shortage problems," said Catlin.

For more information contact Sondra Elrod at 909 993-1747.

IEUA's service area includes the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario Upland as well as the Cucamonga Valley and Monte Vista Water Districts, with a combined total of over 850,000 residents.