preserving drinking water resources in West Basin, CA

By mid-2016, California state officials were bracing for the devastating multi-year drought to continue despite extraordinary conservation measures and improved winter precipitation. Through a public-private partnership with the West Basin Municipal District, SUEZ has been helping to preserve precious drinking water.

SUEZ and the West Basin Municipal Water District, working together at the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility, are helping to preserve drinking water supplies by recycling wastewater. Since 1995, the facility has been producing recycled water for use in a wide variety of commercial, industrial and irrigation applications, easing the demand for the scarce water supply now piped from Northern California and the Colorado River.



with Southern California's

economic growth and prosperity dependent on two unreliable imported water supply sources, water conservation has become a way of life in this desert area. To build a sustainable future, it has become imperative to use-reuse-water wisely.



our commitment to serving West Basin communities

The facility is the largest water recycling facility of its kind in the United States and was recognized by the National Water Research Institute in 2002 as one of only six National Centers for Water Treatment Technologies.

By recycling treated wastewater that would have gone into Santa Monica Bay, the facility has reduced the amount of sewage by five tons a day and has reclaimed more than 140 billion gallons to date. The facility also produces 17.5 MGD of so-called "barrier water," that is, purified water that is injected continuously throughout 153 strategically placed wells to protect the West Coast Groundwater Basin from becoming saline due to seawater intrusion.

This water recycling facility, which produces 65.5 million gallons per day, is the only one in the world to produce five different "designer" waters and has been named a National Research Center. The site produces five types of water: Tertiary Water (Title 22) for a wide variety of industrial and irrigation uses; Nitrified Water for industrial cooling towers; Softened Reverse Osmosis Water: secondary treated wastewater purified by micro-filtration, followed by reverse osmosis, and disinfection for groundwater recharge; Pure Reverse Osmosis Water for refinery low-pressure boiler feed water; and Ultra-Pure Reverse Osmosis Water for refinery high pressure boiler feed water.

SUEZ partners with the West Basin Municipal Water District to provide operation and maintenance for three satellite advanced water treatment operations for the Chevron, PBF (formerly Exxon Mobil) and the Andeavour refineries. Different combinations of technology are used to produce different fit-for-purpose types of water. The technologies include DensaDeg high-rate clarification, ozonation, microfiltration, reverse osmosis, ultraviolet disinfection, advanced oxidation process, lime stabilization and biological nitrification and filtration systems.

contact

Project Headquarters

West Basin Operations 1935 South Hughes Way El Segundo, CA 90245 310-426-6140 mysuezwater.com

North American Headquarters

SUEZ 461 From Road, Suite 400 Paramus, NJ 07652 201-767-9300 suez-na.com

World Headquarters

SUEZ Tour CB21 16, place de l'Iris 92040 Paris La Defense Cedex +33 (0)158 81 20 00 suez.com

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