



**February 1, 2011**  
**Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee**  
**Adeline M.L. Yoong, Government Affairs Program Manager**  
**Water Replenishment District of Southern California**

My name is Adeline Yoong and I am the Government Affairs Manager for the Water Replenishment District of Southern California.

WRD is a groundwater management agency formed 50 years ago that serves more than 10% of this State's population in 43 cities in a 420-square mile area that comprises the urban core of Los Angeles County.

40% of the total water demand in our service area, or roughly 250,000 acre-feet, is met by groundwater. WRD's job is to replenish that supply.

In 1962, WRD was the single largest user of water imported by the Metropolitan Water District. We are now well on our way to eliminating our demand for imported water to replenish the groundwater supply. In just the past 16 years, WRD has implemented numerous projects to reduce our region's reliance on imported water by more than 30,000 acre-feet per year --- enough to supply the annual water needs of a quarter of a million people.

We have done that through the increased use of recycled water, desalted water and storm water --- all locally developed resources that are more reliable, less costly, and far less energy-intensive than imported water.

Through our Water Independence Now, or WIN, program, we expect to completely eliminate our need for imported water for replenishment by 2015.

The major remaining projects in the WIN program include the 3,000 acre-foot expansion of WRD's Advanced Water Treatment Plant in Long Beach to eliminate altogether the use of imported water for injection at the Alamitos Seawater Barrier.

WRD and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works are jointly funding a \$7.5 million pipeline to connect the two major spreading grounds in Central Basin. That project will be operational this month and will enable the capture of up to an additional 1,300 acre-feet of storm water annually for groundwater replenishment. The increased operational efficiency will also allow for the recharge of an additional 5,700 acre-feet per year of recycled water.

We are working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to expand the capture of an additional 1,100 acre-feet of storm water behind the Whittier Narrows Dam.

The heart of the Water Independence Now suite of projects is the Groundwater Reliability Improvement Program, or GRIP.

A joint program with the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, and the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles, GRIP seeks to develop a local sustainable source of replenishment water. One of the potential alternatives has a near-term capacity to provide up to 18,000 acre-feet of highly-treated and high quality recycled water to WRD's service area. The alternatives analysis for that project is underway and we continue to seek funding support from multiple sources.

WRD's goal is to be completely independent of imported water for replenishment by 2015.

We have the capability to develop recycled water and to capture additional storm water to go along with a groundwater storage capacity of nearly a half-million acre feet to achieve self-sufficient groundwater basins in our portion of the Los Angeles Coastal Plain.

WRD also monitors and protects the groundwater quality as part of its groundwater management responsibilities. To that end, the District has constructed a very comprehensive regional monitoring program in partnership with the USGS that includes nearly 300 dedicated monitoring wells that provide hourly readings of groundwater levels from each of the various aquifers that make up the groundwater basins in our service area.

We believe that a large part of the Delta solution, as well as the California water supply solution, exists in Southern California and we believe that our regional groundwater monitoring program and WIN program are good examples of that.

Thank you.