

In January 2004, the San Diego City Council authorized a comprehensive evaluation of all viable options to maximize the usage of recycled water. The study also included analysis and research on the health effects of reuse options and a public participation process. The Reuse Study's stakeholders identified Reservoir Augmentation at the City's San Vicente Reservoir to be their preferred strategy. In October 2007, the San Diego City Council also recognized the North City-3 strategy, also known as San Vicente Indirect Potable Reuse, as their preferred alternative.

The final phase of the Water Reuse program would be the construction of a full-scale advanced water treatment plant and transmission pipeline. The treatment plant would take recycled water (acceptable for irrigation and industrial applications) from the North City Water Reclamation Plant and apply additional treatment to produce high quality advanced treated water. A 22-mile pipeline would then transport this advanced treated recycled water to San Vicente Reservoir where it would blend with imported untreated water and reside for several months (per state regulation) prior to being sent to water treatment plants for additional treatment and distribution as potable water.

More information can be found at,

<http://www.sandiego.gov/water/waterreuse/index.shtml>

As representatives of our region's ratepayers, we are at a critical juncture. The choices we make as a result of actions we take or, perhaps, opportunities missed due to our inaction, will have environmental and fiscal ramifications for many generations to come.

The Metropolitan Wastewater JPA supports the development of a Regional Water Reuse Plan so that both new, local, diversified water supply including potable reuse is created and substantial offload at Point Loma is achieved to support state and federal legislation accepting a smaller PLWTP as a Secondary Equivalent.

Success ultimately minimizes wastewater treatment costs and lessens the need for new water supply sources and larger water transportation systems due to expanded water reuse thereby most effectively applying ratepayer dollars.

Metro JPA Goal: Create a regional water reuse plan so that both a new, local, diversified water supply is created AND substantial offload at Point Loma is achieved to support legislation for permanent acceptance of Point Loma as a smaller secondary equivalent plant that continues to protect the ocean environment. Minimize ultimate Point Loma treatment costs and most effectively spend ratepayer dollars through successful coordination between water and wastewater agencies.