



North Bay Water Reuse Authority

Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District | Novato Sanitary District | Sonoma County Water Agency
| Napa Sanitation District | Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District

PRESS NOTICE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recycled Water Environmental Study Kickoff Meeting: Public Invited to Participate

North Bay Water Reuse Authority announced today that it has filed a Notice of Preparation, kicking off the public phase for the environmental review of this cooperative recycled water program.

“We are pursuing a program that will provide sustainable recycled water to the North Bay region. We believe the public will also find that this program has numerous environmental benefits, and is invited to participate in the process,” noted Bill Long, Chair of the Coordination Committee of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority (NBWRA).

A series of Scoping Meetings will be held within each of the Member Agency service areas to allow the public and regulatory agencies an opportunity to submit comments and ask questions directly to project team members on the scope of the Environmental Impact Report/Statement: August 4 in Napa at the Napa Elks Lodge, 2840 Soscol Avenue; August 5 in Novato at the Margaret Todd Senior Center, 1560 Hill Road; and August 6 in Sonoma at the Sonoma Community Center, 276 East Napa Street. Each of the meetings begins at 6:30p.m. Additional details can be found at www.NBWRA.org.

Recycled Water Will Provide Needed Local Water Supplies

Recycled water is a practical solution, already used extensively in the three North Bay Counties. Tens of millions of gallons of the region's wastewater are treated daily to a high level – and then discharged to pasture land or into the Bay or local waterways. With additional treatment, it can safely be used for irrigation of agriculture, parks, lawns, golf courses, and other non-drinking water uses. The North San Pablo Bay region of Sonoma, Marin and Napa Counties faces long-term challenges in providing reliable water supplies while protecting threatened salmon fisheries. Surface and groundwater supplies are being stretched to the limit, and some groundwater basins are over pumped.

Agencies Are Cooperating to Provide Recycled Water

Five local agencies have begun coordinated regional planning to put recycled water to its most beneficial use. The participating agencies of the North Bay Water Reuse Authority are Napa Sanitation District, Sonoma Valley County Sanitation District, Sonoma County Water Agency, Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District, and Novato Sanitary District with the assistance of North Marin Water District and the County of Napa.

“This cooperative program involves public agencies in three counties working together to develop an integrated series of local projects to recycle water. This approach will not only serve our customers and communities better, but will also increase our chances of obtaining outside funds to help pay for the project,” Long added.

Many Benefits to the Region from Recycled Water

“One of the greatest local benefits is a sustainable supply of water that can be used to offset potable water supplies now used to irrigate community parks, golf courses, and vineyards,” said Long. “Recycled water can also be used for

environmental purposes, such as restoring wetland habitats, and decreasing the amount of wastewater released to the bay”.

In Marin County, preliminary plans show that the recycled water can be cost effectively distributed to urban users in Novato including large turf landscapes, such as cemeteries, golf courses, athletic fields, and park areas. Peacock Gap Golf Course could also be served with recycled water.

In Sonoma County, it is proposed that this program could provide additional recycled water to increase the amount delivered to the Carneros region as well as bring supplies to the City of Sonoma, Valley of the Moon, agricultural areas in Sonoma Valley and to help restore the Napa Salt Marsh.

In Napa County, the recycled water is proposed to be first used in the Milliken-Sarco Tulucay (MST) area, and would go to large users that want the water. Longer term, recycled water could be delivered to Carneros East area.

Want More Information?

If you would like more information regarding the project, or the Scoping meeting, please visit our website at www.NBWRA.org. You or your organization can also contact the North Bay Water Reuse Authority directly at 707-547-1923 or email us at info@nbwra.org.

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