



ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

Orange County's Groundwater Authority

10500 Ellis Avenue, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS NAMES MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E., GENERAL MANAGER

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. (Sept. 24, 2007) — The Orange County Water District (OCWD) Board of Directors announced today that Assistant General Manager Michael R. Markus, P.E., has been selected as general manager. Markus becomes the sixth general manager in the District's 74-year history.

"Mike has been an integral part of the OCWD team for almost 20 years," said Philip Anthony, president of OCWD. "With his extensive background in construction management, civil engineering, water resources, and stewardship of the Groundwater Replenishment (GWR) System, Mike is a natural choice for general manager. We are confident that under his leadership, the District's tradition of innovation and excellence will continue."

Mr. Markus joined OCWD in 1988 as construction manager. In 2004, Markus was elevated to assistant general manager overseeing water production and groundwater recharge operations, in addition to serving as program manager for the GWR System, the world's largest indirect potable water recycling project. His portfolio at OCWD is impressive and includes overseeing construction of many of the water facilities OCWD depends upon today to refill and manage the groundwater basin.

"I am honored to be named general manager," said Markus. "I am committed to continuing to provide a cost-effective, reliable, high quality groundwater supply for north-central Orange County. I look forward to working together with the OCWD board of directors, staff, water retailers and leaders throughout the Santa Ana River watershed."

Since joining OCWD, Markus has overseen the capital projects program that includes construction of more than 70 projects such as the Green Acres Project, a water recycling effort that provides reclaimed water for landscape irrigation at golf courses, schools and parks. Other projects include installation of two rubber dams across the Santa Ana River, pump stations at all of OCWD's major recharge basins and the construction of wetlands behind Prado Dam.

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**MICHAEL R. MARKUS, P.E., NAMED OCWD GENERAL MANAGER
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Prior to OCWD, Markus spent two years with John Carollo Engineers and eight years with Peter Kiewit Sons' Co. He earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and his master's in civil engineering from the University of Southern California.

The Orange County Water District manages the large groundwater basin that underlies north-central Orange County that provides most of the water for more than 2.3 million citizens. The District is committed to enhancing Orange County's groundwater quality and reliability in an environmentally friendly manner. OCWD is a special district, separate from the County of Orange, that supplies water to retailers in the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Fountain Valley, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, La Palma, Los Alamitos, Newport Beach, Orange, Placentia, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Westminster and Yorba Linda.

For more information about OCWD, go to www.ocwd.com on the Internet.

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EDITORIAL NOTE: A photograph of Michael R. Markus, P.E., is attached or can be obtained by contacting Alexis Tate at (714) 378-3202, atate@ocwd.com.