



# 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 APPLAUDS GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER'S CALL FOR SPECIAL SESSION**

**FOUNTAIN VALLEY**, Calif. (Sept. 12, 2007) – The Orange County Water District (OCWD) applauds the Governor's decision to call a special session of the Legislature to address California's water crisis. The Governor's efforts to look to the future and address long-term issues affecting our state's water infrastructure, including increased storage, improved water conveyance, ecosystem restoration and conservation, are commendable.

With the recent court decision on the Delta smelt and the current drought conditions California is experiencing, the grim reality of how limited our water supplies are and the dependency on imported water by many California regions has finally come to the public and political forefront. While long range planning is imperative, immediate solutions are also necessary in the interim to stabilize water transmissions through the Delta system.

"We encourage the Legislature to put forward a package that includes recommendations for immediate repair work on the Delta, as well as funding to allow local regions to implement the best projects that will result in water sustainability and increased supplies," said Phillip Anthony, president of OCWD. "Many of these projects offer reliable, economically sound, and cutting-edge recycling and groundwater replenishment components, which hold the key to solving our state's water crisis."

As a worldwide leader in groundwater management, OCWD plays a valuable role ensuring that a reliable, safe water supply is available from the very large groundwater basin that lies under much of Orange County. This basin provides 60 to 75 percent of the water needs for more than 2.3 million north-central Orange County residents through their local water retailers. OCWD's groundwater basin is one of the largest water storage reservoirs in Southern California, which helps mitigate against recurring droughts. In addition to its high quality, this valuable groundwater is about half the cost of water imported from Northern California and the Colorado River.

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The Orange County Water 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, which supplies water to retailers in the cities of Anaheim, Buena Park, Cypress, Costa Mesa, 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, visit [www.ocwd.com](http://www.ocwd.com).