



Press Release

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O.C. LEADERS GATHER TO LEARN ABOUT CALIFORNIA'S WATER CRISIS *California's Water Crisis Brought to Focus in Anaheim*

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. (May 18, 2009) — More than 530 business and civic leaders, elected officials, and representatives from Southern California's water and power utilities gathered at the 2009 Orange County Water Summit, held May 15 in the Grand Californian Hotel at the Disneyland Resort. The Summit was emceed by actor/comedian Paul Rodriguez, who is the Chairman of the California Latino Water Coalition.

California is facing a water crisis. Water supplies imported into Southern California have experienced historic cutbacks with no immediate relief in sight. To engage residents and business leaders in possible remedies and long-term solutions, the Orange County Water District, Municipal Water District of Orange County, Disneyland Resort and the Orange County Business Council sponsored the second annual O.C. Water Summit. Attendees from across California gathered to learn about the water supply and water quality challenges we face, what temporary measures are in place to address these issues, and possible solutions to water reliability and preserving the Bay-Delta River, California's main source of water.

The Water Summit program included **Secretary A.G. Kawamura, California Department of Food and Agriculture**, who discussed California's withering agriculture industry with Central Valley elected officials and representatives from the state's farming and grocery trades. Representatives from **IBM, Disneyland Resort, St. John Knits** and **Sole Technology** shared their challenges and water conservation lessons. Senator Jeff Denham (R–Merced) and Assemblyman Jose Solorio (D–Anaheim) gave an overview of the various 2010 water bond measures being floated in Sacramento, and with assistance from the global reporting and photographs of “**National Geographic**,” Bruce Dawson of the **Victoria (Aus) Environmental Protection Agency** shared how Australians are surviving a severe multi-year drought and the warning signs for California.

To review the program, a list of speakers and view presentations and photographs from the Summit, go to www.ocwatersummit.com. For information, contact Gina DePinto at (714) 378-3228.

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Presented By:

