



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 GENERAL MANAGER RESIGNS; ACTING GM NAMED

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif. (Feb 15, 2007) — The Board of Directors of Orange County Water District (OCWD) today announced that Virginia Grebbien resigned her position as General Manager effective Friday, March 9, 2007. In 2002, Ms. Grebbien became the fifth general manager in OCWD's 74-year history. A national search for her replacement will begin immediately. In the interim, the board named Assistant General Manager for Water Quality and Technology Mike Wehner as acting general manager.

OCWD provides reliable, low-cost, high quality groundwater to more than 2.3 million residents of north-central Orange County.

Reflecting on Ms. Grebbien's accomplishments, OCWD Board President Phillip Anthony commented, "Virginia is a leader in financial and project management, including the effort to design and build the Groundwater Replenishment (GWR) System, which is serving as a model for municipalities around the world. She also successfully negotiated a significant agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers to store more storm water behind Prado Dam."

"It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve as OCWD's general manager these past five years," said Grebbien. "We strengthened the District's financial position, improved our water reliability, and modified the groundwater basin management approach that resulted in a more sustainable groundwater supply."

Mr. Wehner has served OCWD the past 16 years, first as director of water quality and technology and more recently as assistant general manager for water quality and technology. Prior to that he spent 20 years with the Orange County Environmental Health Department. Since joining OCWD, Wehner has implemented a proactive water quality program that includes a comprehensive monitoring protocol, use of outside expert water quality studies and panels, and a water quality program for the county's new water purification project – the GWR System. Wehner earned his bachelor's degree in biological sciences from University of California, Irvine, and his master's in public works administration from California State University, Long Beach.

“I am honored to be named acting general manager,” said Wehner. “I am committed to continuing to provide a cost-effective, high quality, reliable water supply for Orange County. I look forward to working together with the OCWD board of directors, staff, water retailers and community leaders.”

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

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

Orange County Water District (OCWD) manages the large groundwater basin that underlies north-central Orange County that provides most of the water for 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, 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 about the Orange County Water District, visit www.ocwd.com on the Internet.