



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **INVESTING IN CALIFORNIA'S WATER INFRASTRUCTURE CRITICAL TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND GROWTH**

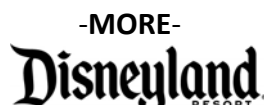
***California's Water and Economic Crisis Brought to Focus in Anaheim, May 14, 2010  
Announcing Siemens Water Technologies is Title Sponsor***

**FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif.** – (April 20, 2010) Even as California receives more rain and snow this week, **the state is still facing a water crisis.** Business leaders and residents around the state should be prepared for water shortages and higher costs. Orange County residents, and businesses and community leaders are invited to engage with water utilities and legislators on possible remedies and long-term solutions at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual O.C. Water Summit, 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., May 14 at the Grand Californian Hotel at Disneyland Resort (Anaheim).

Presented by the Orange County Water District, Municipal Water District of Orange County and Disneyland Resort, the O.C. Water Summit brings together experts from across the country and Southern California business professionals, water industry stakeholders, elected officials, community leaders and environmentalists to discuss ongoing state water issues and how water supply challenges impact our economy. California voters face a historical \$11 billion water bond this November. Attendees can participate in a Water Bond Town Hall where solutions will be discussed and challenged, and more importantly set into motion.

The fee to attend the OC Water Summit is \$125 for pre-registrants; \$140 at the door, and includes breakfast, lunch, parking and Summit materials. Online registration is at [www.ocwatersummit.com](http://www.ocwatersummit.com). **Last year's event sold out!**

Water supplies imported into Southern California have experienced historic cutbacks with no immediate relief in sight. Most of Southern California's water supplies come from two imported sources – the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta in Northern California and the Colorado River. The Delta is the lifeline of our state. It provides water to farming communities in the Central Valley, the heart of our agricultural economy, and cities throughout Southern California.



**2010 O.C. WATER SUMMIT  
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Pumping from this source has been restricted to protect endangered habitat and water yield has declined due to drought conditions. Factor in annual cost increases, land subsidence, population growth, rising sea levels and inevitable earthquakes that could destroy the weak levees along the river and you have a formula for a disastrous economy. In addition, access to Colorado River water is threatened as six other western states compete for that water, drawing more of it to meet demands of their own growing populations.

The O.C. Water Summit is an innovative, interactive forum that not only tackles these issues, but sets real solutions in motion.

**Program and Speaker Highlights:**

- Paul Rodriguez, actor, comedian and Chair of the California Latino Water Coalition
- Joel Kotkin, author, economist and columnist for Forbes; author of “The Next Hundred Million: America in 2050”
- Steve Solomon, writer for the New York Times, BusinessWeek, Forbes, Esquire; frequent guest on CNBC and author of “Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power, and Civilization”
- Water Bond Town Hall - Gubernatorial candidates have been Invited to discuss their vision and plans to strengthen California’s economy and fix the state’s water problems

*The Orange County Water District manages the groundwater basin underneath northern and central Orange County that provides most of the water for more than 2.3 million residents. Established by the California State Legislature in 1933, OCWD is a special district governed by a 10-member Board of Directors. For general information, call (714) 378-3200 or go to [www.ocwd.com](http://www.ocwd.com).*

*The Municipal Water District of Orange County is a water resource management and planning agency, dedicated to ensuring supply and system reliability for the 2.3 million residents it serves through 28 client agencies. For general information, call (714) 963-3058 or go to [www.mwdoc.com](http://www.mwdoc.com).*

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**NOTE: Media representatives who wish to cover part or the entire Summit, please RSVP to Gina DePinto at (714) 378-3228, [gdepinto@ocwd.com](mailto:gdepinto@ocwd.com) or cell (760) 271-7934.**

