



OMWD Receives 2023 Environmental Excellence Award from Industrial Environmental Association

Encinitas, CA—Olivenhain Municipal Water District was recognized today by the Industrial Environmental Association as one of three winners of the 2023 Environmental Excellence Awards. The awards event was held at the San Diego Convention Center during the 2023 Environmental Training Symposium and Conference, and recognizes OMWD’s Recycled Water Pipeline Extension 153A Project.

The project involved the installation of a 1,400-foot pipeline under the San Dieguito River which reduced the region’s potable water demand. This project has effectively provided environmentally friendly recycled water service to San Diego communities since 2019.

“OMWD is honored to receive this award and proud to be recognized for our efforts to promote sustainable water management practices in the industrial sector,” said OMWD Board President Christy Guerin. “This project is a testament to OMWD’s commitment to innovation and collaboration in support of a more sustainable future for our community.”

The Recycled Water Pipeline Extension 153A Project involved utilizing horizontal directional drilling which allowed the project to avoid wetland and other sensitive habitat impacts. This engineering innovation was more efficient than traditional excavation work. The project provides the City of San Diego’s property with a drought-resilient supply and enabled Surf Cup Sports, LLC, a youth soccer organization, to irrigate approximately 55 acres of sports fields with a sustainable recycled water supply. The project also reduces energy consumption and greenhouse gasses related to transporting water.

The Environmental Excellence Award is presented annually by the Industrial Environmental Association to recognize outstanding achievements in environmental stewardship in the San Diego region. The award serves to promote sustainable practices and encourages organizations to continue their efforts to protect and preserve the environment. With this recognition, OMWD reaffirms its position as a leader in sustainable water management practices in the San Diego region.

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Olivenhain Municipal Water District is a public agency providing water, wastewater services, recycled water, hydroelectricity, and operation of Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Organized in 1959, OMWD currently serves approximately 87,000 customers over 48 square miles in northern San Diego County.

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