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**Orange County Sanitation District Wins
National Environmental Achievement Award**

Fountain Valley, CA - The Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) was once again recognized for its involvement with the Groundwater Replenishment System. The joint project with the Orange County Water District (OCWD) is the world's largest water reuse facility that takes highly treated wastewater that would have previously been discharged into the Pacific Ocean and purifies it using a three-step advanced treatment process.

The Final Expansion project, completed in December 2022, added 30 million gallons per day (MGD) to the system's capacity, bringing the total to 130 MGD - enough water for 1 million people per day. Notably, this expansion achieved an unprecedented milestone: recycling 100 percent of OC San's reclaimable wastewater flows, a feat unmatched by other wastewater recycling initiatives.

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) recognized this big achievement by granting both agencies the National Environmental Achievement Award in Community Leadership for the Groundwater Replenishment System Final Expansion. The award recognizes agencies that have made outstanding contributions to environmental protection and the clean water community.

"OC San and OCWD have set the stage for what it takes to truly excel as water recycling agencies and I am proud for us to be recognized by NACWA," stated OC San Chairman Chad Wanke. "This recognition is indicative of the commitment our staff and Board of Directors make every day to Orange County."

About OC San

OC San is a public agency that provides wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling for approximately 2.6 million people in central and northwest Orange County. OC San is a special district that is governed by a 25- member Board of Directors composed of 20 cities, four special districts, and one representative from the Orange County Board of Supervisors. OC San has two operating facilities that treat wastewater from residential, commercial, and industrial sources. For more information, please visit www.ocsan.gov.

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