



News from EMWD

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For Immediate Release

Perris Water Filtration Plant Wins Membrane Award

Perris, CA (March 19, 2009)—The Perris Water Filtration Plant operated by Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) was awarded the Plant of the Year for 2009 by the Southwest Membrane Operator Association (SWMOA).

The Perris Water Filtration Plant was recognized for using membrane and ultra violet technologies; having a history of meeting all regulatory requirements; and being a good neighbor, given the close proximity of homes surrounding the plant.

Khos Ghaderi, director of water operations, said, “This plant is a critical supplier of water into EMWD’s water system and with future expansion will produce 24 million gallons a day (MGD).” The Perris plant uses ultra violet technology for removal of Cryptosporidium and Giardia, water-borne protozoans that can cause disease and are resistant to chlorine. Completing a connection to the State Water Project in 2009 will increase the flexibility of water sources for the facility. Currently, it diverts water from Metropolitan Water District’s (MWD) Colorado River Aqueduct.

SWMOA is a relatively new affiliate of the American Membrane Technology Association dedicated to the Southwest United States region. Its focus is on training and education for membrane plant operators. Technology transfer workshops that include hands-on training are offered as well as the more conventional “classroom” setting.

With the growth of membrane based treatment plants, SWMOA fills the need for education, training and networking. They hope to be an information resource for elected officials, utility managers and the public. “Sharing experiences and insights makes the industry stronger and the technology even more reliable,” said Ghaderi, who is also on the board of directors of SWMOA. “We will continue to expand our use of membrane technology with our water filtration plants and our desalters in order to deliver a quality product to our customers,” he added.

EMWD is the freshwater, wastewater service and recycled water provider to a 555-square mile area from Moreno Valley southward along the I-215 corridor to Temecula and eastward to Hemet and San Jacinto. Approximately 675,000 people live and work in this area. In addition to its own water customers, EMWD supplements water to eight local water agencies and municipalities that have their own water departments. EMWD operates four water reclamation facilities and treats some 45 million gallons of wastewater daily. More information can be found at EMWD’s web site www.emwd.org.