

Recycled Water Seasonal Storage Project Guiding Principles

The Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority (JPA) considers recycled water a valuable resource to be beneficially reused. The JPA produces recycled water at its Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) by treating wastewater flows from its service area to meet strict state and federal water quality standards. The amount of recycled water produced at Tapia is relatively constant throughout the year. However, customers' needs or "demands" for recycled water fluctuate significantly during the year. Demands are very high during the hot summer months, exceeding the supply from Tapia, and can drop to near zero during periods of rainfall during the winter.

As a result, the JPA is challenged to balance the constant supply of recycled with fluctuating demands throughout the year. During the summer months, potable water must be added to the recycled water system to meet the high demands. Conversely, during the winter months, excess recycled water must be released to Malibu Creek and the Los Angeles River or applied to the JPA's sprayfields. Releases to Malibu Creek are subject to ever increasing regulatory requirements, which will likely be cost-prohibitive to meet in the near future.

A seasonal storage reservoir for recycled water would allow the JPA to balance supply and demands. Excess recycled water could be placed in the reservoir during the winter months for use during the high demand summer period. Additional demands for recycled water would need to be developed to ensure that the reservoir could be drawn down each year, making room for needed storage in the wintertime. A seasonal storage reservoir has been envisioned since the first Recycled Water Master Plan was completed in the 1970s. In 2012, the JPA completed a Recycled Water Seasonal Storage Feasibility Study. This study evaluated the technical and economic feasibility of three alternatives for the reservoir.

The JPA desires to fully and beneficially reuse its recycled water by moving forward with investigation of seasonal storage. This investigation will be guided by the following principles.

1. Maximize Beneficial Reuse by:

- 1.1. Being an environmental steward
- 1.2. Reducing existing potable water use
- 1.3. Reducing discharge to Malibu Creek and Los Angeles River
- 1.4. Encouraging infill use in both service areas
- 1.5. Providing regional benefits
- 1.6. Creating water supply reliability

2. Seek Cost Effective Solutions by:

- 2.1. Seeking funding from grants, matching funds and partnerships
- 2.2. Engaging permitting and regulatory agencies early and often
- 2.3. Each partner sharing in outside funding
- 2.4. Each partner funding their share
- 2.5. Being on time, on schedule and within budget
- 2.6. Analyzing impacts and benefits of the project from each partners perspective

3. *Seek Partnerships beyond the JPA by:*

- 3.1. Considering multiple uses such as;
 - 3.1.1. Recreation
 - 3.1.2. Education
 - 3.1.3. Creation of open space
- 3.2. Engaging stakeholders early and often
- 3.3. Considering additional partners that will purchase recycled water

4. *Gain Community Support by:*

- 4.1. Engaging and educating the public and stakeholders
- 4.2. Being transparent
- 4.3. Establishing public safety as a top priority

5. *Govern with a Partnership by:*

- 5.1. Using the JPA Agreement as a guiding document
- 5.2. Communicating openly and frequently
- 5.3. Being committed to the project
- 5.4. Equitably allocating costs and sharing benefits from both partners perspective

6. *Be Forward Thinking by considering the possibilities of:*

- 6.1. Expanding the recycled water system beyond the JPA service area
- 6.2. Exterior residential reuse
- 6.3. Exterior and Interior use for new and remodeled commercial projects
- 6.4. Indirect potable reuse
- 6.5. Direct potable reuse