

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

THE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) are a confederation of independent special districts that serve the wastewater and solid waste management needs of approximately 5.2 million people in Los Angeles County (County). The Districts' service area covers approximately 800 square miles and encompasses 78 cities and unincorporated territory within the County.

The Districts were formed under the authority provided by the County Sanitation District Act of 1923 (Act). This Act authorizes the formation of sanitation districts determined by drainage areas, instead of political boundaries, which allows for a more efficient means of wastewater management. Provisions of the Act authorize the Districts to construct, operate, and maintain facilities to collect, treat, and dispose of residential, commercial, and industrial wastewater collected throughout the Districts' service area. The Act was amended in 1949 to allow the Districts to provide solid waste management services, including refuse transfer and resource recovery. The Districts' service area and facilities are shown in Figure ES-1 of the Executive Summary.

The Districts are composed of 25 separate sanitation districts working cooperatively under a Joint Administration Agreement (JAA) and benefiting from a centralized administrative staff headquartered near Whittier, California. Of these 25 districts, 23 are currently active. Each district has a separate board of directors consisting of the presiding officers of the governing bodies of the local jurisdictions situated within that district. Each district is required to pay its proportionate share of the joint administration costs, pursuant to the terms of the JAA.

The Districts own, operate, and maintain over 1,300 miles of main trunk sewers and 11 wastewater treatment plants with a total permitted capacity of 627.8 million

gallons per day (mgd). Operation and maintenance (O&M) of the local sewers and laterals that connect to the Districts' trunk sewers are the responsibilities of the local jurisdictions within the Districts' service area.

During the 2001-02 fiscal year, the Districts' sewerage system conveyed and treated approximately 510 mgd of wastewater. Approximately 190 mgd of the treated wastewater (20 mgd secondary-treated and 170 mgd tertiary-treated) was available for reuse. Forty-four percent, or 84 mgd, of this available recycled water was actually reused for a variety of applications, including landscape and agricultural irrigation, industrial process water, recreational impoundments, wildlife habitat maintenance, and groundwater replenishment.

The Districts also operate a solid waste management system that serves the needs of a large portion of the County. This system includes three active sanitary landfills, which accept approximately 19,000 tons per day (tpd) of solid waste, three landfill gas-to-energy facilities, two recycle centers, and two materials recovery and transfer facilities. In addition, the Districts maintain three closed sanitary landfills and participate in the operation of two refuse-to-energy facilities. Of the total solid waste accepted at Districts' facilities, 15,500 tpd is disposed of at the landfills and 3,500 tpd is recycled. Altogether, the Districts dispose of approximately 40 percent of the solid waste generated in the County. The local collection and transportation of solid waste to Districts' facilities is the responsibility of the jurisdictions within the Districts' service area.

THE ANTELOPE VALLEY AND COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 14 OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The Districts own, operate, and maintain wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities in the Antelope Valley. The Antelope Valley is located in the southwestern portion of the Mojave Desert and is bounded on the southwest by the San Gabriel Mountains, on the northwest by the Tehachapi

Mountains, and on the east by a series of buttes and hills that generally coincide with the Los Angeles/San Bernardino County line. The valley is a closed basin with no outlet to the ocean. All surface water flows naturally toward three dry lakes (Rogers, Rosamond, and Buckhorn) located on Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB). The Antelope Valley is bisected by the Los Angeles/Kern County line with the extreme eastern edge of the valley being in San Bernardino County. Major communities located in the Antelope Valley include Lancaster, Palmdale, Mojave, Boron, and Rosamond. Smaller communities in the valley include Littlerock, Quartz Hill, Pearblossom, Llano, and Pearland. An overall view of the Antelope Valley is shown in Figure 1-1.

County Sanitation District No. 14 of Los Angeles County (District No. 14) provides wastewater collection, treatment, and effluent management services for most of the City of Lancaster, portions of the City of Palmdale, and adjacent unincorporated County areas. Other portions of the Antelope Valley within the County, including most of the City of Palmdale, are served by County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County (District No. 20). District No. 20 owns and operates the Palmdale Water Reclamation Plant, and the network of trunk sewers throughout its service area.

District No. 14 was formed on August 31, 1938. At the time of its formation, District No. 14 encompassed an area of less than one square mile. Through annexations, it now provides sewerage service to over 45 square miles. The Board of Directors for District No. 14 consists of the mayors of the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale and the Chair of the County Board of Supervisors.

Sphere of Influence

A sphere of influence, as defined by Section 56076 of the Cortese/Knox/Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, constitutes *the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency.*

A sphere of influence of a sanitation district is generally determined by topography and drainage, and may not correspond to political boundaries. A district generally cannot annex territory beyond its sphere of influence without first amending its sphere. The current sphere of influence for District No. 14 was adopted by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) on June 8, 1983. However, LAFCO has since approved a number of minor boundary changes to the adopted sphere of influence coincident with new annexations. Figure 1-2 shows the current boundaries and projected service area for District No. 14. It is anticipated that by 2020, the District No. 14 service area will be coincident with the sphere of influence.

Sewerage and Effluent Management Systems

An approximately 64-mile network of trunk sewers extends throughout the District No. 14 service area and conveys wastewater to the Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant (LWRP) located near the intersection of Avenue D and Sierra Highway, north of the City of Lancaster. This network of trunk sewers forms the backbone of the wastewater collection system. Lateral sewers collect wastewater generated at individual properties and drain to local sewers. Local sewers drain to the trunk sewers, which in turn convey wastewater to the LWRP. All wastewater generated within District No. 14 and discharged to public sewerage facilities is treated at the LWRP.

The LWRP has a design treatment capacity of 16.0 mgd. In 2002, the LWRP treated an average wastewater flow of 12.8 mgd. The LWRP provides primary and secondary treatment to all wastewater by utilizing sedimentation followed by biological stabilization in oxidation ponds. The Antelope Valley Tertiary Treatment Plant (AVTTP), which is also located at the LWRP site, provides tertiary treatment for up to 0.6 mgd of LWRP effluent. In 2002, the AVTTP treated an average flow of 0.22 mgd. The location of the LWRP and AVTTP is illustrated in Figure 1-3.

Recycled water can be reused in accordance with the regulations promulgated by the California Department of Health Services (DHS) in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). The recycled water produced at the LWRP is discharged to and/or reused at various sites. Disinfected secondary effluent is discharged to Piute Ponds and the Impoundment Areas adjacent to Piute Ponds, both of which are located on EAFB. Undisinfected secondary effluent is transported via a 24-inch diameter pipeline to Nebeker Ranch, a 680-acre privately-owned farm, for irrigation of fodder crops. Disinfected tertiary effluent produced by the AVTTP is conveyed via a 12-inch diameter pipeline to Apollo Lakes Regional County Park (Apollo Park), where it is used to maintain three lakes that are open to the public. The locations of the various effluent utilization sites are illustrated in Figure 1-3.

DISTRICT NO. 14 PLANNING HISTORY

In 1940, two years after its formation, District No. 14 sold bonds to finance a small sewerage system in Lancaster. Treated effluent from this facility was discharged to Amargosa Creek beginning in 1941. Following the expansion of the District No. 14 service area in 1952, bonds were issued to construct new facilities. In 1956, after further expansion of the District No. 14 service area, additional bonds were issued to expand the District No. 14 sewer system and to construct the LWRP. In 1959, the LWRP facility, with a design capacity of 4.5 mgd, was completed at its current location, which is approximately one mile west of Amargosa Creek.

Amargosa Creek flows in a northeasterly direction from the Sierra Pelona Mountains and terminates at Rosamond Dry Lake, which is located on EAFB. At the time the LWRP was constructed, its effluent flowed onto Rosamond Dry Lake unobstructed, via Amargosa Creek. EAFB found that this practice could potentially interfere with its designation and use of the lake bed as an emergency aircraft landing area. In response, District No. 14 constructed a dike across Amargosa

Creek along Avenue C (C-Dike) in 1961. C-Dike was designed to impound the LWRP effluent and prevent it from flowing onto Rosamond Dry Lake. The shallow, effluent-dominated, impounded water body created by C-Dike has since come to be known as Piute Ponds.

Subsequently, the LWRP has been expanded three times. In 1989 it was expanded from the original capacity of 4.5 mgd to 6.5 mgd, then to 10.0 mgd in 1992, and finally to its present design capacity of 16.0 mgd in 1997.

During the 1970s, the Districts undertook a facilities planning effort covering a 25-year planning period for Districts Nos. 14 and 20. A plan of study and progress report were provided to the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) in 1974 and 1975, respectively. In May 1976, the Districts completed the *Wastewater Facilities Plan for Sanitation Districts 14 and 20* and an associated Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). A public hearing for these documents was held on June 22, 1976. At the hearing, a number of comments were received regarding the desire to preserve Piute Ponds, which would have been allowed to dry up under the recommended plan to reuse all of the LWRP effluent for irrigation purposes. In response, the Districts completed the *Wastewater Facilities Plan for Sanitation Districts 14 and 20, Additions and Final EIR* in January 1977. The major issue addressed by the 1977 revised report involved maintenance of Piute Ponds.

The revised plan presented in the 1977 *Wastewater Facilities Plan for Sanitation Districts 14 and 20, Additions and Final EIR* recommended agricultural reuse of recycled water at Nebeker Ranch, expansion of the LWRP to 6.8 mgd, and interim emergency chlorination facilities to meet the requirements of a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (RWQCB-LR) on January 9, 1977. The installation of a groundwater extraction well to maintain Piute Ponds was proposed since all of the LWRP effluent would be

reused for agricultural irrigation. However, the final operator for the well had not been determined because legal counsel for the Districts advised that District No. 14 could not maintain a facility unrelated to the management of treated wastewater.

The Districts completed the *Supplemental Report Finalizing the Wastewater Facilities Plan for District No. 14* in March 1981, which was intended to complete facilities planning requirements for District No. 14 by augmenting the original documents. This supplemental report was required because the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), which was identified as the most likely party to operate a groundwater extraction well for the purpose of maintaining Piute Ponds, formally responded that it could not accept responsibility for such costs. Furthermore, the previous planning documents were prepared under the assumption that the Palmdale Regional Airport (PMD) would be expanded in the mid-1980s to accommodate international air traffic, which would result in an increase in population and proportionately higher wastewater flows. However, as a result of continued uncertainty regarding expansion of PMD, the 1981 supplemental report focused on facilities necessary to serve the near-term needs of District No. 14.

The recommended LWRP facilities identified in the 1981 supplemental report were designed to accommodate an additional 2.0 mgd, for a total influent flow rate of 6.5 mgd, and included agricultural reuse and construction of storage reservoirs. This expansion was referred to as the Stage II expansion of the LWRP. The recommended effluent storage facilities would be capable of ensuring sufficient water to maintain the marsh-type habitat at Piute Ponds as well as providing recycled water to agricultural users. This would be accomplished by allowing recycled water produced during the winter months, when demand for recycled water is low, to be stored for use during the summer months, when demand for recycled water is high.

The population in the Antelope Valley more than doubled during the 1980s, even though PMD was not expanded as planned. In 1988, the Board of Directors of District No. 14 approved the Stage III expansion of the LWRP as described in the *Addendum to the Final EIR and Supplemental Report Finalizing the Wastewater Facilities Plan for Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14*. The Stage III expansion of the LWRP from 6.5 to 10.0 mgd was completed in 1992. Forecasts from the *1986 County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning Antelope Valley Areawide General Plan*, which had not been considered in previous environmental documents, were used to develop the population predictions for the addendum.

In July 1990, the Districts approved the Stage IV expansion of the LWRP from 10.0 to 16.0 mgd as described in the *Addendum to the Final EIR and Supplemental Report Finalizing the Wastewater Facilities Plan for Los Angeles County Sanitation District No. 14*. The additional facilities were necessary to accommodate anticipated growth forecast in the *Air Quality Management Plan and Growth Management Plan* adopted by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). The Stage IV expansion was completed in 1997.

NEED FOR PROJECT

The LWRP has a design capacity of 16.0 mgd, permitted under the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) issued by the RWQCB-LR, and in 2002, treated an average flow of 12.8 mgd.

District No. 14 has prepared this *Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant 2020 Facilities Plan* (LWRP 2020 Plan) to identify the wastewater treatment and effluent management facilities needed to accommodate the projected wastewater flow and effluent generated through the year 2020.

There are four issues that are addressed by the LWRP 2020 Plan:

- The ability to accommodate projected wastewater flows;
- The ability to manage effluent without unauthorized overflows from Piute Ponds to Rosamond Dry Lake;
- The ability to supply recycled water for municipal reuse projects; and
- The ability to maintain the marsh-type habitat and wildlife resources at Piute Ponds;

Wastewater conveyance facilities (trunk sewers, manholes, pump stations, etc.) are routinely evaluated by District No. 14 and are thus not discussed in the LWRP 2020 Plan. In March 2003, District No. 14 completed the *Rosamond Outfall and Trunk "F" Sewer Facilities Plan*, which identified current conditions in the wastewater conveyance system and recommended sewer relief and replacement projects.

Accommodation of the Projected Wastewater Flows

The Antelope Valley is one of the fastest growing regions in California. This region has grown rapidly over the past 20 years, and growth forecasts predict that the region will continue to grow at a rapid rate. The District No. 14 planning area population is similarly expected to grow rapidly in the immediate future.

SCAG, a regional, multi-jurisdictional planning agency, prepares forecasts for a six-county region that covers most of Southern California (San Diego County is not included in the SCAG region). SCAG forecasts generally reflect, incorporate, and aggregate general plans and forecasts prepared by local jurisdictions within the SCAG region. The most recent SCAG forecast is the *Southern California Association of Governments 2001 Regional Transportation Plan* (SCAG 2001), which was adopted in April 2001 and includes population forecasts through the year 2025. The 2020 sewered population for District No. 14 was estimated by disaggregating the SCAG 2001 forecast on

the basis of census tracts within the District No. 14 planning area and adjusting this population for current and expected septic tank usage. In this manner, the 2020 sewered population for District No. 14 has been estimated to be approximately 252,000. This represents a 105 percent increase over the year 2000 sewered population of approximately 123,000.

Wastewater flows tributary to the LWRP are expected to grow in proportion to growth of the sewered population of District No. 14. The wastewater flow rate projected for District No. 14 in 2020, based on the population forecast from SCAG 2001, is 26.0 mgd. Since the current capacity of the LWRP is 16.0 mgd, both the wastewater treatment and effluent management systems for District No. 14 must be expanded in order to meet the needs of the projected service area for District No. 14 through the year 2020.

Elimination of Unauthorized Effluent-Induced Overflows

Effluent from the LWRP that is not used for agricultural irrigation or conveyed to Apollo Park is discharged to Amargosa Creek, which formerly terminated at Rosamond Dry Lake. Amargosa Creek now flows into Piute Ponds behind C-Dike, upstream of Rosamond Dry Lake. C-Dike was originally sufficient to effectively prevent effluent-induced overflows of LWRP effluent to Rosamond Dry Lake. In the 1970s, as District No. 14 grew, and the flow of wastewater to the LWRP increased, the corresponding effluent discharge from the LWRP exceeded the impoundment capacity of C-Dike and caused unauthorized effluent-induced overflows from Piute Ponds onto Rosamond Dry Lake.

In response, District No. 14 implemented a plan to reuse LWRP effluent for irrigation of fodder crops on approximately 616 acres at Nebeker Ranch, located four miles northwest of the LWRP. Because water demand by both Piute Ponds and agriculture is seasonal, storage reservoirs were constructed to ensure an adequate supply of water for both uses in the summer and to eliminate unauthorized effluent-induced overflows from

Piute Ponds to Rosamond Dry Lake in the winter months. However, as the plant flow continued to increase, the LWRP effluent management system became incapable of preventing unauthorized effluent-induced overflows onto Rosamond Dry Lake.

In the late 1980s, Ducks Unlimited and EAFB constructed a series of seasonal impoundments south of Piute Ponds that are used for duck hunting. In accordance with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed by District No. 14 and EAFB on March 8, 1991, District No. 14 is permitted to discharge recycled water to the Impoundment Areas during the seasonal period of November 1 through April 15. Discharge to these impoundments, which cover approximately 90 acres, is not sufficient to prevent unauthorized effluent-induced overflows from Piute Ponds to Rosamond Dry Lake.

Discharges of effluent from the LWRP to Piute Ponds have in the past caused unauthorized effluent-induced overflows to Rosamond Dry Lake to occur nine months or more of the year. By causing overflows from Piute Ponds to begin earlier and to persist longer than would otherwise occur from natural seasonal rainfall runoff, discharges of recycled water from the LWRP to Piute Ponds lengthen the time that Rosamond Dry Lake is flooded. Additionally, during drier years, effluent-induced overflows from Piute Ponds may constitute the majority of water that reaches the lake bed. However, since December 2000, District No. 14, with the authorization of EAFB, has implemented a modified effluent management strategy, which has resulted in a reduction in the time period that Piute Ponds overflow onto Rosamond Dry Lake. On an annual basis, EAFB authorizes overflows to occur from December through March. Even under this modified effluent management strategy, the magnitude and duration of effluent discharges will continue to increase as flows to the LWRP increase in step with a growing population.

Effluent-induced overflows from Piute Ponds to Rosamond Dry Lake that are not authorized by EAFB and create a threatened nuisance condition are in

violation of the WDRs (Appendix B; General Requirements and Prohibitions I.E.2 and I.E.3) for the LWRP. Overflows from Piute Ponds to Rosamond Dry Lake that are a result of storm runoff do not constitute a violation. When Piute Ponds are full and are overflowing as a result of storm water runoff, the WDRs prohibit discharges of recycled water to Piute Ponds at levels greater than the evaporative rate from the ponds.

Supply of Recycled Water for Municipal Reuse

The Districts have supported and supplied recycled water for reuse projects for many years. As far back as 1948, the Districts began planning for a network of water reclamation facilities to provide useful water from wastewater. Water recycling and reuse have since become an integral part of the water supply infrastructure in the County, where the desert-like climate requires the importation of potable water to satisfy the needs of the residents and industry.

The cities, water purveyors, and other public and private organizations in the Antelope Valley must contend with complex local water use issues due to a rapidly growing population. The water supply sources for the valley include surface water, recycled water, and groundwater. Of these sources, only the potential supply of recycled water exceeds current use. Surface water supplies are limited by the amount of rainfall, the facilities available to capture and transport it, and the contracted amounts from the State Water Project (SWP). Local groundwater supplies, which are currently not administered under a basin management plan, have been overdrafted for years resulting in increased pumping costs, land subsidence, and loss of aquifer storage capacity. Water use is discussed in more detail in Chapters 2 and 5.

Recycled water can be integrated into the water supply by using it to replace supplies of potable water. The treatment requirements and permitted uses of recycled water are specified in Title 22 of the CCR. In District No. 14, both secondary and tertiary treated effluent is

currently integrated into the water supply. Secondary treated water, which is subject to more restrictive reuse standards in comparison to tertiary treated water, is used to irrigate fodder crops at Nebeker Ranch. A limited amount of wastewater undergoes tertiary treatment at the AVTTP and is then delivered to Apollo Park. In 2002, the average volume of recycled water reused at Nebeker Ranch and Apollo Park was 4.0 mgd and 0.16 mgd, respectively. This is less than half of the recycled water that is available for reuse.

The City of Lancaster, in planning for future growth, has recognized that recycled water resources are being underutilized. The city has resolved to implement a water reuse project, designated the Regional Reclaimed Water Distribution System, to use recycled water in place of potable water for landscape irrigation and industrial purposes within its sphere of influence. The City of Lancaster will construct the facilities to distribute up to 1.5 mgd, or 4.6 acre-feet (af) per day, of tertiary-treated effluent. The city may construct additional facilities in the future to use additional recycled water from the LWRP.

District No. 14 has committed to provide recycled water to the City of Lancaster for the initial proposed capacity and future increased demand of its municipal reuse project. In order to meet the water quality standards required in Title 22 of the CCR for the use of recycled water for landscape irrigation and industrial purposes, the wastewater must undergo tertiary treatment. The tertiary treatment capacity at the LWRP will have to be increased to provide a sufficient quantity of recycled water for municipal reuse projects.

Implementation of municipal reuse projects will benefit the Antelope Valley by making the highest and best use of the available recycled water, and by allowing an equivalent amount of potable water to be used for other purposes.

Maintenance of Piute Ponds

Piute Ponds is an effluent-dominated water body that was created when C-Dike was built across Amargosa Creek for the express purpose of impounding LWRP effluent that would otherwise flow onto Rosamond Dry Lake. As emergent plant species became established around the shallow borders of Piute Ponds, including the Amargosa Creek delta and adjacent mud flats, the site began to attract a large number of migratory waterfowl. As a result, DFG designated Piute Ponds as a regionally significant wildlife and wetlands habitat. A three-party Letter of Agreement (LOA) between District No. 14, DFG, and EAFB, dated May 6, 1981, requires District No. 14 to discharge effluent from the LWRP to Piute Ponds at a rate sufficient to maintain a minimum of 200 wetted acres of habitat. Neither the ponds nor the extensive marsh-type habitat would exist if it were not for the discharge of effluent from the LWRP. Accordingly, the aquatic and riparian ecosystems at Piute Ponds exist as a result of, rather than in spite of, the discharge of effluent to the ponds. District No. 14 plans to maintain Piute Ponds at its current area of approximately 400 acres.

The RWQCB-LR had historically regulated discharges to Piute Ponds as discharges to a land area or strictly as a reuse project and therefore regulated a limited number of water quality objectives. However, the WDRs for the LWRP, issued by the RWQCB-LR in September 2002, implement additional water quality objectives included in the *1994 Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region* (Basin Plan). Ammonia and chlorine residual are the only objectives in the WDRs that are currently not being achieved by the LWRP. Previous WDRs for the LWRP did not regulate these parameters. District No. 14 intends on meeting the chlorine residual standard by constructing dechlorination facilities at the LWRP. As permitted by the Basin Plan, District No. 14 is conducting a site-specific study and providing additional information to the RWQCB-LR to support a revision of the ammonia

discharge standard for receiving waters specific to the LWRP.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The goal of the LWRP 2020 Plan is to identify the necessary wastewater treatment and effluent management facilities to meet the needs of the projected service area for District No. 14 through the year 2020. As discussed previously, the projected increases in wastewater flow generated within the District No. 14 planning area, the existing inability to manage LWRP effluent without causing unauthorized effluent-induced overflows to Rosamond Dry Lake, and increased treatment needs to provide recycled water for municipal reuse, mandate that a project be undertaken to upgrade and expand the existing wastewater treatment and effluent management systems of the LWRP. District No. 14 also bears the responsibility of maintaining Piute Ponds in accordance with the 1981 LOA described previously. Therefore, the objectives of the LWRP 2020 Plan are as follows:

- Provide wastewater treatment and effluent management capacity adequate to meet the needs of District No. 14 through the year 2020 in an environmentally sound and cost-effective manner;
- Eliminate unauthorized effluent-induced overflows from Piute Ponds to Rosamond Dry Lake in the most expeditious manner possible and in consideration of the RWQCB-LR compliance date of August 25, 2005, in order to avoid any threatened nuisance condition as determined by EAFB;
- Ensure recycled water of sufficient quality and quantity is available to satisfy emerging municipal reuse needs; and
- Comply with the requirements to maintain Piute Ponds.

LANCASTER WATER RECLAMATION PLANT 2020 FACILITIES PLAN ORGANIZATION

Chapter 1 provides an overview of the Districts, in particular, District No. 14, as well as defining the need for a project. Chapter 1 also defines the project's objectives. Chapters 2 and 3 provide the regional and regulatory settings for facilities planning in the Antelope Valley. The existing District No. 14 wastewater treatment facilities and effluent management system are described in Chapter 4. Chapter 5 provides a description of water and wastewater characteristics and projections for future wastewater treatment needs based on population forecasts. Chapter 6 provides the methodology used to develop and analyze project alternatives. Finally, the project alternative identified as the recommended project in Chapter 6 is detailed in Chapter 7.

The appendices contain additional background information, calculations, and analyses. In particular, Appendix A provides information pertaining to the State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan program, summarizes items applicable to this plan, and references the location where these items are addressed. Following the appendices are the Bibliography and List of Abbreviations used in this document.

The *Final Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant 2020 Facilities Plan Environmental Impact Report* (Final LWRP 2020 Plan EIR) was prepared for District No. 14 by the environmental consulting firm Environmental Science Associates in conformance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a separate document and is available upon request.

The Final LWRP 2020 Plan EIR includes responses to comments received during the public review period for the *Draft Lancaster Water Reclamation Plant 2020 Facilities Plan Environmental Impact Report* (Draft LWRP 2020 Plan EIR), which was published by District No. 14 on September 30, 2003.