

RECYCLED WATER ADVISORY GROUP
CONSENSUS STATEMENT

Los Angeles and all of Southern California face an increasing shortage of water.

The Recycled Water Advisory Group (RWAG) strongly supports use of purified recycled water to augment the groundwater supply that Los Angeles draws on for its drinking water. Purified recycled water is advanced treated wastewater (sewage) that undergoes microfiltration, reverse osmosis, and ultraviolet and hydrogen peroxide disinfection, resulting in water that meets or exceeds all drinking water standards.

Additionally, RWAG supports continuing other uses of recycled water, including for irrigation, industrial and commercial purposes.

In pursuing the increased use of recycled water, we urge the City of Los Angeles to maintain the highest levels of safety, assure cost-effectiveness, and communicate with the people of Los Angeles in a timely, open and transparent manner.

RWAG recommends conducting a rigorous independent financial analysis of the recycled water program, including the impact on rates, subject to on-going review by the Ratepayers Advocate.

After reviewing and contributing to the City's plans for recycling wastewater and considering other successful major water reuse programs, we conclude that, properly implemented, indirect potable reuse of purified recycled water will be a reliable and safe component of the Los Angeles water supply.

RWAG is an independent broad-based affiliation of individuals representing environmental, business, and community groups; Neighborhood Councils; technical organizations; and other interested parties convened by the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power and the Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation to address water supply issues of the City of Los Angeles.

RWAG is composed of the following: