



PRESS RELEASE

July 27, 2010

A strong local partnership between West Valley Water District and the City of Rialto means clean water, sooner, for our communities.

The agreement adopted this month marks an important milestone in our mutual goal of cleaning up the area's contaminated groundwater. Now that both agencies have approved the agreement, West Valley Water District can move forward in lockstep with the City of Rialto to advance a regional solution for clean, safe and affordable water.

Under the agreement, the West Valley Water District will build and operate a treatment system using \$16 million in state and federal grant funding.

By using Rialto Well No. 6, owned by the City of Rialto, and placing the treatment system at West Valley Water District's headquarters, this project is construction-ready. We can put our grant money to work, provide new jobs, and bring the highly contaminated Rialto Well. 6 back on line in just a few years.

This system will effectively remove perchlorate and TCE contaminants that seeped in to our groundwater from industrial activity that began in the 1940's. This treatment center has been needed for decades and means our residents will once again be able to draw from this needed water well free of worries about exposure to dangerous chemicals.

Residents of the area deserve access to clean water. It is the responsibility of civic leaders and water purveyors to make every effort to undo what has been done and provide safe, clean water today and well into the future.

A special thanks needs to go to State Senator Gloria Negrete-McLeod and her staff for their help on this project.

We have a long road ahead. Our communities face massive challenges removing pollutants and fuels from our groundwater. Through regional partnerships like the one between West Valley Water District and the City of Rialto, we are on the right track to address this challenge.