

For Immediate Release Contact:

March 13, 2009 Noelle Collins, Public Affairs 310-660-6217 noellec@westbasin.org

Students Experience Water Careers in Annual Job Shadow Day at West Basin Water Recycling Facility

EL SEGUNDO, CALIF—Last month, West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) was host to 17 high school students at its water purification facility in El Segundo. High School students from Hillcrest Academy High School in Inglewood visited the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility to explore a day in the life of plant operators, maintenance workers, water quality specialists, engineers, human resources managers, and public affairs staff.

"This community event is a great opportunity for students to speak directly with professionals in the water industry and to hear about their diverse experiences in education and training," said West Basin Director Gloria D. Gray. "I hope that, as a result of this experience, some of them will be interested in pursuing a career in water."

West Basin co-hosted Job Shadow Day with United Water, the private company that operates the purification facility for West Basin. Job Shadow Day was initiated and organized by the Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board. Transportation and lunch was provided for students and their chaperones by West Basin.

-more-

The 17 high school students were exposed to a wide range of careers, including those that use chemistry, biology, engineering, human resources, finance, water resource planning, public relations, operations, and maintenance, including both male and female role models. High school students from West Basin's service area were provided a tour of the water purification facility to see how water is made, who is responsible for running the equipment, testing water quality, making sure everything operates smoothly, making hiring decisions, and conducting public outreach.

West Basin will be participating in an appreciation luncheon will be held for businesses who participated in this year's Job Shadow Day on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Hollywood Park Casino in Inglewood.

###