



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

# **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, (Public Law 117-58), Title IX—Western Water Infrastructure, Section 40905: Feasibility Study Review Findings**

**U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation’s  
Large-Scale Water Recycling Program**

Prepared for

**Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate  
Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives**



## **Mission Statements**

The U.S. Department of the Interior protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage; provides scientific and other information about those resources; honors its trust responsibilities or special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and affiliated Island Communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.



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# Introduction

This report is provided in accordance with Section 40905 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act – Title IX Western Water Infrastructure, also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), (Public Law 117-58). Section 40905 of the BIL authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to provide grant funding for planning, design, and construction of Large-Scale Water Recycling projects. Large-Scale Water Recycling projects are defined as projects that reclaim or reuse wastewater or impaired groundwater or surface water and have a total project cost of \$500 million or more. Similar to the requirements under the Title XVI Program, Section 40905 of the BIL authorizes Reclamation to provide grants for up to 25 percent of total costs of planning, design, and construction of a large-scale project once Reclamation has reviewed a feasibility study submitted by the project sponsor and has informed Congress that the project meets Reclamation’s requirements.

In accordance with Section 40905 of the BIL, projects are eligible to compete for funding after a project sponsor completes a feasibility study and Reclamation determines that it meets the programmatic requirements outlined in the Reclamation Manual Directives and Standards WTR 11-01, as well as the additional requirements established in Large-Scale Water Recycling Program Feasibility Study Review Process WTR TRMR-128. WTR 11-01 and TRMR-128 are designed to provide structured guidance for feasibility study reviews and to meet feasibility study legislative requirements. This includes determinations that the project is technically and financially feasible; provides a Federal benefit in accordance with the reclamation laws; and is consistent with applicable Federal and State laws.

## Feasibility Reviews and Determinations

Section 40905 of the BIL requires the Secretary of the Interior to submit a report to Congress that describes the results of feasibility reviews. Figure 1 below is a summary of the four feasibility study reviews that have occurred. All four feasibility studies were determined to meet the requirements of WTR 11-01 and TRMR-128.

As a result of meeting requirements outlined in WTR 11-01 and TRMR-128, these projects, as defined by the feasibility study, are eligible for funding through the competitive Large-Scale Water Recycling grant program. Reclamation uses annual competitive funding opportunities to allocate BIL funds available for this program. The total Federal funding received may not exceed 25 percent of the total project cost.

Projects must also comply with all applicable environmental laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), and all project sponsors must demonstrate that they have sufficient non-Federal funding available to complete the project and are financially solvent.

## Project Summaries

Provided below is a summary of the four projects that include the projects sponsors, location, project description, and total estimated project costs.

| Los Angeles Department of Water and Power                              | Metropolitan Water District of Southern California              | City of San Buenaventura                          | Washington County Water Conservancy District                     |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Project Title:</b><br>Los Angeles Groundwater Replenishment Project | <b>Project Title:</b><br>Pure Water Southern California Project | <b>Project Title:</b><br>VenturaWaterPure Program | <b>Project Title:</b><br>Washington County Regional Reuse System |
| <b>Estimated Project Costs:</b><br>\$718,235,329                       | <b>Estimated Project Costs:</b><br>\$6,174,200,000              | <b>Estimated Project Costs:</b><br>\$557,200,000  | <b>Estimated Project Costs:</b><br>\$914,279,000                 |

Figure 1.—Summary of the four feasibility studies reviewed by Reclamation.

### Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

**Project:** Los Angeles Groundwater Replenishment Project

**Location:** Los Angeles, California

**Review Completed:** July 18, 2024

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is partnering with Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment to design and construct the Los Angeles Groundwater Replenishment Project. The project will produce purified recycled water by diverting tertiary effluent from the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant to a new advanced water purification facility using microfiltration, reverse osmosis, and an ultraviolet advanced oxidation process. The purified water will then be delivered to the Hansen Spreading Grounds to replenish the San Fernando Groundwater Basin. The project once constructed will reduce dependence on imported water by delivering 20,600 acre-feet per year of recycled water, establishing a new local, drought-tolerant water supply.

**Total Estimated Project Costs:** \$718,235,329



## Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

**Project:** Pure Water Southern California Project

**Location:** Los Angeles County, California

**Review Completed:** May 17, 2024

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), in partnership with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD), is developing a large-scale, regional, recycled water project to create a new reliable and drought resilient water supply and mitigate against climate change and competing water demands. Upon completion, Phase 1 of the Pure Water Southern California Program (Program) is expected to deliver 115 million gallons per day (MGD) or 118,590 acre-feet of recycled water annually through treatment and beneficial reuse of unused effluent from LACSD's largest, 400 MGD, wastewater treatment plant (Warren Facility). The project will increase local water supplies through the treatment of effluent using an advanced treatment train that includes a membrane bioreactor, reverse osmosis, and an advanced oxidation process. After treatment, the water will be conveyed through 44 miles of pipeline to groundwater recharge facilities in three basins and to direct potable reuse (DPR) treatment facilities.

**Total Estimated Project Cost:** \$6,174,200,000

## City of San Buenaventura

**Project:** Ventura WaterPure Program

**Location:** San Buenaventura (Ventura), California

**Review Completed:** September 11, 2024

The City of San Buenaventura will construct treatment and conveyance facilities to produce up to 3,600 acre-feet per year of local recycled water to meet projected potable water demands. The project will divert tertiary-treated effluent from the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility, currently being discharged to the Santa Clara River Estuary, to a new advanced water purification facility to produce recycled water that meets or exceeds the state requirements for potable reuse. Project components include membrane bioreactor treatment and ultraviolet light disinfection, construction of an advanced water purification facility, new pipelines and pump stations to convey source and product water throughout the new system, injection and extraction wells, and an ocean outfall concentrate discharge facility.

**Total Estimated Project Cost:** \$557,200,000

## **Washington County Water Conservancy District**

**Project:** Washington County Regional Reuse System

**Location:** St. George, Utah

**Review Completed:** June 6, 2024

The Washington County Water Conservancy District, in partnership with the City of St. George and the Ash Creek Special Service District, is developing the Washington County Regional Reuse System to help meet water demand for the area's expanding economy and growing population by integrating potable and non-potable irrigation reuse into Washington County's water supply portfolio. The Regional Reuse System once completed is expected to provide up to 40,000 acre-feet of annual recycled water supply by 2070, which will help maximize local reliable water supplies that are under increasing pressure from climate change and economic growth. The Regional Reuse System comprises multiple reuse components and phases of treatment, conveyance, and storage projects. Treatment components include upgrades and expansion of the St. George Reuse facility and the Ash Creek water treatment plant. Conveyance and storage project components include a reuse forebay and desilting facility, approximately 83 miles of pipeline, a 1,500 acre-foot secondary irrigation reservoir, and a 55,000 acre-feet of secondary irrigation reuse water storage.

**Total Estimated Project Cost:** \$914,279,000