



## AB 303 Grant Awarded

### Background

The ***San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District*** (District) submitted a project to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) that entailed installation of two (2) 400 foot deep dedicated monitoring wells in the Santa Ana River/Mill Creek Forebay (Forebay) area of the San Bernardino Valley. In 2003 it was announced by the DWR that a \$230,000 grant had been awarded to the District for this project.

The District has successfully recharged water in this area for decades and has the capability and interest in improving its recharge operation. This project will support the understanding of the local hydrogeology and improved monitoring data needed for enhanced recharge in the Forebay area.

Water level data will be collected at the time of well installation and on a continuing basis as part of the groundwater monitoring program conducted by the District. These data will fill

important gaps in the current monitoring network and will assist in understanding the effects of recharge. Incorporation of the new data will provide better definition of groundwater flow patterns and provide valuable data points for monitoring future recharge events. This project will foster better management of the District's limited water resources to the benefit of all stakeholders in the basin.

### Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of this study is to provide an improved understanding of the effects of recharge in the Forebay area. Groundwater recharge is key to the water supply of Bunker Hill basin. Recent net declines in water levels have indicated a need for better understanding of hydrogeologic conditions near the spreading basins to allow a balanced management of the basin and to support increased recharge capabilities in the future. The following goals and objectives were identified for the two monitoring wells:

- Site and design the new dedicated monitoring wells to assist in the understanding of recharge and local groundwater quality.
- Locate the wells to better understand the geologic cross sections of the Forebay area and the groundwater level monitoring network.
- Conduct aquifer testing (pumping tests) of the wells to provide data on aquifer

characteristics that will allow the District to better evaluate the impacts of its recharge operations on groundwater levels and flow.

- Collect and analyze groundwater samples from the wells to assist in the understanding of recharge and local groundwater quality.