



## **News for Immediate Release**

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### **DWR unveils pumping plant energy efficiency improvements**

SACRAMENTO – The Department of Water Resources today announced the first pump refurbishment at A.D. Edmonston pumping plant, improving the energy efficiency of the State Water Project.

This is the first step of the project to refurbish four of the 14 units at A.D. Edmonston, an essential link in the SWP that pumps water over the Tehachapi Mountains into Southern California.

“This represents another milestone in our efforts to increase the energy efficiency of the State Water Project and reduce the carbon footprint of our operations,” said DWR Director Lester A. Snow, speaking at A.D. Edmonston pumping plant, located about 30 miles south of Bakersfield.

When completed in 2011, the refurbishment of the four Edmonston pumps, combined with the efficiency improvements already done at Hyatt Powerplant in Oroville, will save enough energy to power 33,000 households for a year, or the equivalent to taking 11,000 cars off the road. The energy saved from the refurbishment of the first pump alone is equivalent to that generated by a 12-acre solar panel farm.

DWR is one of the largest generators of clean hydroelectric generation in the State. On average, 60 percent of the SWP’s power portfolio is from non-carbon emitting sources, primarily the SWP’s hydroelectric plants.

The SWP is the largest state-owned water conveyance system in the United States, yet it yields less than one percent of California’s greenhouse gas emissions. The A.D. Edmonston pump refurbishments, along with other efficiency projects, will help DWR meet the state’s strict Assembly Bill 32 goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. DWR will meet those levels seven years ahead of schedule in 2013.

DWR also plays an important role in stabilizing the state's energy grid by participating in the Demand Response Program. DWR reduces its pumping operations during peak summer hours, freeing up cleaner energy to provide power to the grid that would otherwise be attained from dirtier sources.

DWR is also working on other initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint including:

- A study to investigate the potential for the development of solar and wind energy at DWR facilities.
- Investigating the potential for additional pumped storage operations and facilities.
- Installation of a small hydroelectric generator (14 MW) as part of the East Branch Enlargement project.

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*The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.*

Contact the [DWR Public Affairs Office](#) for more information about DWR's water activities.