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**ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR ONGOING SAFE WATER PRACTICES**  
*Ten Year Status in Program Receives National Recognition*

Livermore, CA, Zone 7 Water Agency's Del Valle Water Treatment Plant has received a national award for maintaining the Directors Award of recognition from the Partnership for Safe Water, a national volunteer initiative developed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other water organizations representing water suppliers striving to provide their communities with drinking water quality that surpasses the required federal standards. The Directors Award is presented to water systems that have completed a successful review in the Partnership's Self-Assessment and Peer Review phase, a phase in which utilities examine the capabilities of their treatment plant operation and administration and then create a plan for implementing improvements. Zone 7 has maintained the Directors Award for ten years, an honor achieved by only 16 water utilities across the country.

Developed by the EPA and other water organizations striving to provide optimum quality drinking water, the Partnership currently includes more than 200 water utilities, collectively serving more than 85 million people. This represents 60% of the U.S. population served by surface water systems. Zone 7 Water Agency's ongoing participation in the program includes a rigorous review of treatment practices developed by national experts, and also includes a four-step, self-assessment and peer-review process.

"Maintaining Directors Award status for ten years demonstrates our philosophy of constant vigilance to improve water quality," said Zone 7 Board President Sarah Palmer. "We are thrilled to receive national recognition for this ongoing commitment. It's a great reflection on the hard work of our staff."

Zone 7, which provides treated drinking water to retailers serving 200,000 people in Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin and Dougherty Valley, was presented with the Ten-Year Directors Award at the American Water Works Association's Annual Conference & Exposition in San Diego, California, in June.

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*The Partnership for Safe Water is sponsored by the American Water Works Association, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, Association of State Drinking Water Administrators, United States Environmental Protection Agency, National Association of Water Companies, and the Water Research Foundation (formerly the American Water Works Association Research Foundation).*

*Zone 7 Water Agency is one of the 10 active zones of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The District was established by the State Legislature in October 1949 to solve problems of flooding, drainage, channel erosion and water supply and conservation in Alameda County. In 1957, by popular vote, Zone 7 became a special district governed by a seven-member board of directors. It provides flood protection in eastern Alameda County, and water to a population of around 200,000. Treated water is sold wholesale to local retailers, including the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, the Dublin San Ramon Services District, and the California Water Service Company. Zone 7 also distributes untreated water to local agricultural operations and golf courses.*