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ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Transparency Certificate of Excellence Awarded to Leucadia Wastewater District

Carlsbad, CA – The Leucadia Wastewater District (LWD) received the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) in recognition of its outstanding efforts to promote transparency and good governance.

“This award is a testament to Leucadia Wastewater District’s commitment to open government,” said Paul Bushee, General Manager. “The entire district staff is to be commended for their contributions that empower the public with information and facilitate engagement and oversight.”

In order to receive the award, a special district must demonstrate the completion of eight essential governance transparency requirements, including conducting ethics training for all board members, properly conducting open and public meetings, and filing financial transactions and compensation reports to the State Controller in a timely manner.

The Leucadia Wastewater District also fulfilled fifteen website requirements, including providing readily available information to the public, such as board agendas, past minutes, current district budgets, and the most recent financial audit.

Finally, the district must demonstrated outreach to its constituents that engages the public in its governance, through regular district newsletters and a special community engagement project.

Background: The Leucadia Wastewater District was formed in 1959 to collect and transport about 4 million gallons of wastewater every day. The wastewater is conveyed through the district’s sewer mains and pump stations, and ultimately pumped to the Encina Water Pollution Control Facility in Carlsbad. It is then treated at their facility to federally mandated standards before it is released into the ocean. The Leucadia

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Wastewater District provides this service to approximately 60,000 residents in a 16 square miles boundary that includes the original service area in Leucadia as well as the La Costa area of Carlsbad and northern Encinitas. In addition to providing wastewater services, the district also provides recycled water for irrigation at the Omni La Costa Resort & Spa's golf course. Under the direction of the elected Board of Directors, LWD's team of 18 employees, both administrative and field services work together to ensure smooth operations of the facilities, maintenance of the infrastructure while providing excellent customer services.

SDLF is an independent, non-profit organization formed to promote good governance and best practices among California's special districts through certification, accreditation and other recognition programs.

Special districts are independent public agencies that deliver core local services to communities, such as water, fire protection, parks and recreation, healthcare, sanitation, mosquito abatement, ports, libraries, public cemeteries and more. Districts are established by voters and their funding is approved by voters in order to meet specific needs through focused service. They can be specially molded to serve large regions or small neighborhoods depending on the need.

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The mission of the Leucadia Wastewater District is to serve the public by collecting, transporting, recycling and treating wastewater in a safe, reliable, efficient, cost effective and environmentally responsible manner, while providing excellent service to their customers.