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February 1, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Press Release from Leucadia Wastewater District

On Friday, February 1, 2013, Leucadia Wastewater District (LWD) crews responded to a wastewater spill on the 6500 block of Ponto Drive in Carlsbad, CA. The spill, which occurred during a planned rehabilitation project, appears to have been caused by the failure of a pipeline that transports wastewater from LWD's Batiquitos Pump Station to the Encina Water Pollution Control Facility.

LWD crews were in the vicinity monitoring the rehabilitation when they discovered the spill, which occurred shortly after 5:30 am. LWD maintains dual pipelines in the area and flows were switched to the redundant pipeline to stop the spill shortly after it occurred. Crews also initiated emergency cleanup protocols to minimize the spill's impacts. LWD estimates that the spill lasted for 20 minutes with an estimated 22,000 gallons released with approximately 2,500 gallons recovered and safely returned to the wastewater system. LWD is continuing to investigate the cause of this incident. As a precaution, advisory signs have been posted at the North Ponto State Beach and water testing protocols have been initiated per the San Diego Department of Environmental Health.

For more information, please contact LWD at (760) 753-0155.

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**Background:** Leucadia Wastewater District was formed in 1959 to collect, transport, and treat wastewater and provide recycled water for irrigation. The District provides service to about 60,000 customers in a 16-square-mile area that includes La Costa, Leucadia, and the Village Park area of Encinitas. The District manages of about 4 million gallons of treated wastewater daily.

The District's operations feature the use of advanced technology. Pipelines are regularly video-inspected to assure that they are secure and leak free. Computer mapping systems and mathematical modeling are used to design and maintain facilities so that they work under all conditions, at all times.

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