



SERRANO WATER DISTRICT
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September 1, 2026

Hon. Sheila F. Hanson, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Orange
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Response of Serrano Water District to 2025-2026 Orange County Grand Jury report, PFAS and Public Awareness: A Closer Look at Orange County Drinking Water

Presiding Judge Hanson:

Serrano Water District (SWD) is a local groundwater producer that provides retail water services to approximately 6,000 people in the city of Villa Park and a portion of the city of Orange. Per the Grand Jury's request, we are pleased to respond to the subject Grand Jury report ("Report"). Per the Grand Jury's instructions, SWD will address Findings F2, F4, F6, and F8 and Recommendations R2, R4, and R5.

F2 PFAS is widespread, and contamination has been detected in Orange County groundwater sources. Community water systems are required to report PFAS monitoring results in their annual Consumer Confidence Reports.

SWD agrees that community water systems are required to report PFAS monitoring results in their annual Consumer Confidence Reports if the concentration is above a state set Report Detection Level, consistent with requirements established by the state Division of Drinking Water.

F4 OCWD has taken a proactive leadership role in addressing PFAS in the Orange County Groundwater Basin, though PFAS treatment implementation varies across local cities and water districts.

SWD agrees with the finding. SWD provides safe and reliable drinking water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards. Despite playing no role in releasing PFAS into the environment, SWD is working with OCWD to remove PFAS from SWD supplies in order to comply with state and federal regulations. PFAS treatment has been implemented at all of SWD's active wells.

F6 Orange County drinking water meets or exceeds state and federal standards and is safe for consumption without additional home filtration.

SWD agrees with this finding as to the water it supplies.

- F8 There are limited online PFAS education and outreach programs among Orange County water retailers. Most retailers rely on OCWD for PFAS education and outreach. PFAS advisories were included in approximately 55% of the Orange County water retailers' annual water quality reports in 2025.

SWD partially disagrees with this finding. SWD maintains a PFAS section on its website, www.serranowater.org, which contains a Fact Sheet regarding SWD's PFAS treatment facility and actions to remove PFAS.

- R2 By July 1, 2029, OCWD and its member agencies should monitor PFAS in groundwater and surface water sources and promptly implement PFAS treatment when response levels are exceeded. [F2, F4]

The recommendation has been implemented. Working with OCWD, SWD continues to maintain a proactive and comprehensive monitoring program for PFAS in all of our wells. SWD's C.L. "Larry" Pharris Jr. Filtration Plant has been in operation since February 2022 and treats 100% of the groundwater supplies for SWD to ensure removal of PFAS.

- R4 By July 1, 2029, all Orange County water retailers should consistently include a PFAS advisory, treatment facilities status, and compliance information in consumer confidence reports (CCR) and on agency websites, using clear and understandable language for the public. [F2, F8]

SWD currently monitors and treats all of its groundwater sources to remove PFAS. SWD will continue to meet all CCR requirements as required by law and keep the public abreast of such efforts via the SWD website.

- R5 By September 30, 2026, OCWD and all Orange County water retailers should enhance coordinated public education efforts to reassure their customers about drinking water safety. [F6, F8]

Recommendation has been implemented. SWD is working with OCWD to coordinate information regarding PFAS and will continue providing the public with educational PFAS information, resources, and updates posted on our website.

Serrano Water District appreciates the Grand Jury's inquiry into this important issue. If there are any additional questions regarding SWD's response, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. D. Wiesner", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Andrew D. Wiesner, P.E.
General Manager
Serrano Water District

cc: Orange County Grand Jury