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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 22, 2013

### **Agency Earns Four Million Dollar Grant PVWMA Helps Reduce Costs for Local Residents**

Watsonville, CA – The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA) was informed by the US Bureau of Reclamation that it was being awarded a \$4,000,000 grant to help repay the costs of building the Watsonville Recycled Water Treatment Facility. The Bureau’s congratulatory notice included praise for the work done by the agency.

“The Bureau of Reclamation is pleased to inform you that your application was among those receiving the highest ratings.”

“I wish to thank the agency team that continues to identify and successfully pursue grant opportunities” stated PVWMA General Manager Mary Bannister. She added “Securing these funds allows us to focus on our efforts to mitigate the effects of salt water intrusion while reducing the financial burden on residents of the Pajaro Valley.”

PVWMA is one of only five projects in the western United States being awarded funding from the Bureau’s Title XVI WaterSMART grant program. PVWMA’s grant made up nearly 25% of the \$15.6 million awarded this year. The Department of Interior established WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow) in February 2010 to facilitate the work of Interior's bureaus in pursuing a sustainable water supply for the nation

The PVWMA is a public agency whose mission is to protect and preserve the water resources within the agency’s jurisdiction, generally the greater coastal Pajaro Valley.

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