

the PIPELINE

PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT



Landmark PWD Wind Turbine Dismantled

The iconic wind turbine, a prominent landmark in Palmdale for the past 21 years, has been decommissioned and removed from the Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant to allow Palmdale Water District (PWD) to transition to solar power.

Over a two-week period in November, contractors disassembled the three 85-foot blades from the 950 kW Micon 900 wind turbine then took down the 237-foot tower. The wind turbine, a now-defunct model, was declared as surplus property by the Board of Directors a few months ago.

San Diego-based renewable energy power producer Terra-Gen removed the reusable pieces from the turbine and salvaged the remaining parts at no cost to PWD.

"The District took several steps for energy independence in the early 2000s," said PWD General Manager Dennis D. LaMoreaux. "The most visible and progressive was the wind turbine. It became part of the AV's skyline and appears in hundreds of pictures of the area.

"However, the wind turbine is no longer functional," he added. "It definitely did its job for the District. Many of us will miss seeing its prominence in our valley, but it is time to retire it."

Since 2004, the turbine has been a highly noticeable visual for people driving on the Antelope Valley Freeway (14) and through the streets of Palmdale. It was erected to provide electricity for the operations of PWD's treatment plant on Avenue S, where water is treated before distribution to customers. When operational, the wind turbine saved up to 100% on power costs. Some years, the savings were \$100,000.

The turbine had been non-operational for several years due to unavailable parts, high costs, and difficulty in finding qualified technicians to make repairs, said PWD Assistant General Manager Scott Rogers.

Keeping the non-working wind turbine on the property was not an option. Because it was more than 100 feet tall, it had to be registered with the Federal Aviation Administration, and the red light on top of it had to be kept on as a warning to pilots.

"Our future energy plans are centered on solar power," Rogers said. "One of our two upcoming solar projects will replace the turbine."

Of the two solar projects, one will supply up to 100% of the energy needed by the treatment plant and boosters at a nearby tank. The second project will power the main office on Avenue Q and six nearby well sites.

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Calendar:

Board Meetings

Mondays @ 6 p.m.
Dec. 15
Jan. 12 & 26, 2026
Feb. 9 & 23, 2026
PWD Board Room
2029 E. Avenue Q, Palmdale

Event

PWD Blood Drive
Thursday, Feb. 12, 2026
@ 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
PWD Board Room

PWD Closures

Christmas
Thursday, Dec. 25

New Year's Day
Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026

2025 Highlights

This year has been filled with many highlights and countless accomplishments by the team of nearly 90 Palmdale Water District staff, who work tirelessly to ensure that clean water is delivered every day to more than 127,000 people in the PWD service area. It was a year highlighted by the Palmdale Ditch Conversion Groundbreaking, great progress on the construction of the Pure Water AV Demonstration Facility, dismantling of the wind turbine, and a Public Relations Society of America - Los Angeles award for this publication, *The Pipeline*.



- PWD broke ground and started construction on the Palmdale Ditch Conversion Project, which is replacing the open ditch built in the 1880s with a covered pipeline.



- The Facilities staff repaired 11 mainline leaks and 61 service line leaks, installed nearly 3,800 smart meters, and conducted maintenance on 221 fire hydrants and 454 valves.



- The laboratory at the Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant collected approximately 3,000 samples and conducted nearly 15,000 water quality analyses.

Happenings in 2026

- The Pure Water AV Demonstration Facility grand opening will be in late 2026. Stay tuned for updates throughout the year.
- Well 36, the newest well in more than 30 years, will be operational.
- About 3,500 new smart meters will be installed for customers, replacing analog meters.
- In compliance with California state legislation AB 1572, PWD will implement new regulations prohibiting the use of potable water for irrigating nonfunctional turf. The law also requires the phased removal of nonfunctional turf from public and commercial properties beginning in 2027.



- The Customer Care Department welcomed nearly 900 new customers, completed more than 108,000 work orders, and provided courtesy leak credits to about 190 customers that totaled more than \$37,000. This year, 683 customers qualified for the Rate Assistance Program (RAP) that is for seniors age 62 and older, veterans and low-income families. It provides \$25 off the monthly service fee. The application window for 2026 is open. Spots are limited.



- The Special Districts Association of North L.A. County, which is comprised of special districts in the Antelope and Santa Clarita valleys, received the 2025 Chapter of the Year Award from the California Special Districts Association.

Irrigation at Local High School Converted to Recycled Water

PWD, acting on behalf of the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority (PRWA), has converted the irrigation system at SOAR High School's Palmdale Campus to operate on 100% recycled water. Funded by Proposition 1, this project marks the first time a Palmdale school is using recycled water for irrigation.

"By using recycled water for landscape irrigation at SOAR High School, PWD is conserving valuable drinking water supplies and promoting responsible water management practices," said PWD Engineering Manager Shadi Bader. "Recycled water is one of the answers to the challenges we face with the future of water."

SOAR High School joins William J. McAdam Park as one of only two recycled water customers currently connected to the PRWA recycled water system. The high school is in the 2200 block of Avenue Q, and the park is in the 38000 block of 30th Street East in Palmdale.

The project was successfully completed in partnership with the Antelope Valley Unified School District.

In 2012, PRWA was formed jointly by PWD and the city of Palmdale to study, promote, develop, distribute, install, finance, use, and manage recycled water resources. Recycled water is also available for construction and dust control activities through hydrant meters, and a new recycled water fill station is set to open at PWD's main office next year.



New Board Director Appointed for Division 5

Debbie Dino, an active community leader and water conservation advocate, is the new Board Director for PWD's Division 5. In early September, she took the oath of office after being appointed by the Board to fill the seat formerly held by her late husband, Vincent Dino.

"I am truly grateful for the opportunity to carry on Vincent's legacy," Director Dino said. "It's bittersweet to be sitting in the seat he once occupied, but I'm excited to be on the Board for an organization that is doing important work for our community."

The Board accepted applications to fill the vacant position by appointment following the unexpected death of Vincent Dino on July 20. The seat will be up for election in November 2026.

Director Dino, a resident of Palmdale since 1994, serves as a director for the Antelope Valley Fair Board and for Kids Feeding Kids Through Agriculture. From 2016 to 2020, she was a Hearing Officer for the city of Palmdale.

PWD Welcomes New Finance Manager/CFO



PWD is pleased to announce that Viridiana Iguaran is its new Finance Manager/CFO. She started in late July, replacing Dennis Hoffmeyer who retired after 36 years with the District.

In her new role managing the Finance Department, Iguaran is responsible for accounts payable, purchasing, payroll and customer finance. She works closely with a financial advisor on District investments.

"I'm humbled and honored to have this role where I can continue serving the public and my community," Iguaran said.

Her experience includes years of working for several municipalities. She most recently served as the Assistant Director of Finance for the city of Lancaster where she started as a Senior Analyst in Finance in 2020. She also held finance positions with the cities of Palmdale and Santa Clarita.

A lifelong Antelope Valley resident, Iguaran received her Bachelor of Science in Finance from California State University, Northridge, and her Master of Science in Accounting from Syracuse University in New York.

WATER-USE EFFICIENCY TEAM INSPIRES 600 STUDENTS AT PALMDALE AEROSPACE ACADEMY



Water-Use Efficiency Specialists Maria Avelar and Robert Rosati pose with Aqua Dog and the elementary school students from the Palmdale Aerospace Academy. Students learned about the journey of water and the importance of water conservation.

CONTACT US!

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PAY NEAR ME: PAY WITH CASH AT ANY 7-ELEVEN OR FAMILY DOLLAR LOCATION WITH YOUR PWD STATEMENT.

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Schedule

Sessions 1-3
Time: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
April 8, 15 & 22

Session 4
Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
April 25

Scan the QR code to sign up for the interest list.



Become a PWD 2026 Water Ambassador!

The award-winning Water Ambassadors Academy allows interested community members to learn about Palmdale Water District's history, infrastructure, facilities, water sources, and future projects.

This program aims to engage and educate a diverse network of individuals in the Antelope Valley so that more people will become familiar with PWD.

The three-week program is free, but registration is required. Session 4 will include tours of the Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant and the Littlerock Dam.

For more information, please contact Public Affairs Specialist Michelle Trejo at mtrejo@palmdalewater.org or 661-441-5944.



Board of Directors

W. Scott Kellerman, Division 1
Don Wilson, Division 2
Cynthia Sanchez, Division 3
Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Division 4
Debbie Dino, Division 5

Executive Team

Dennis D. LaMoreaux
General Manager/CEO

Scott Rogers
Assistant General Manager/COO

Viridiana Iguaran
Finance Manager/CFO

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Mission Statement : Since 1918, the Palmdale Water District has provided high-quality water at a reasonable cost. We pride ourselves on great customer care; advocating for local water issues that help our residents; educating the community on water-use efficiency; and leading our region in researching and implementing emerging technologies that increase operational efficiency.