



## LONG BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT

The Standard in Water Conservation &  
Environmental Stewardship

### **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
Thursday, July 13, 2006

Contact: Ryan J. Alsop  
(562) 570-2314  
(562) 277-3497  
[Ryan\\_alsop@lbwater.org](mailto:Ryan_alsop@lbwater.org)

## **Standard & Poor's Affirms Water Department Stellar Credit Rating**

LONG BEACH, CA – Standard & Poor's has recently affirmed an "A-1+" short-term credit rating for the Long Beach Water Department's outstanding Commercial Paper notes. The Department issued Commercial Paper notes in 2002 to fund its citywide reclaimed water expansion project and the seawater desalination project. The A-1+ rating is the highest ranking opinion given by Standard & Poor's for credit quality.

According to Standard & Poor's, the high credit rating is attributed to the strong credit quality of the issuer, including strong historic debt service coverage; a capital plan that benefits from flexible timing, with grants expected to take out a portion of the notes; and a line of credit that protects the Department from sudden note payment demands should remarketing efforts fail.

These Commercial Paper notes are secured by a lien on subordinate net revenues of the Water Department's water revenue fund. Liquidity support is provided by a \$15 million line of credit agreement provided by the State Street Bank and Trust Company. As of June 2006, \$6 million in principal is outstanding.

The Long Beach Water Department is an urban Southern California water supply agency and the standard in water conservation and environmental stewardship.

The Department has received the Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for 20 consecutive years.

Learn more by visiting [www.lbwater.org](http://www.lbwater.org).

###