

State Water Resources Control Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATE WATER BOARD GIVES CORCORAN \$2 MILLION TO REMOVE ARSENIC FROM DRINKING WATER

CORCORAN – Just two weeks after the city of Corcoran provided residents with bottled water to drink because its water supply exceeded state standards, this San Joaquin Valley town today celebrated the coming completion of a new water treatment plant.

Executive Director Celeste Cantú represented the State Water Resources Control Board at the ceremony. The State Water Board gave \$2 million in Proposition 40 Small Community Groundwater Grant Program funds to pay for the arsenic removal portion of the 18-million-gallon-per-day water treatment project.

“This is a great example of taxpayer approved funds being used to help a small California community provide safe drinking water by removing harmful contaminants from the supply,” said Ms. Cantú. “This new facility fills a real need in Corcoran. The projects that applied for this grant funding were ranked by the staffs of the Water Boards and California Department of Health Services based on the extent and concentration of arsenic or nitrate contamination in the water supply.”

The Small Community Groundwater Grant Program was established to assist small communities with a financial hardship to treat or replace water supplies that exceed maximum contaminant levels established by the US Environmental Protection Agency. The city of Corcoran’s drinking water supply comes from seven wells that contain arsenic levels that exceed the federal standard.

Construction on the Corcoran Water Treatment Plant is expected to be complete by the end of May. The Department of Health Services will issue the permit to operate the facility.

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