

PURE WATER PROGRAM PROJECT UPDATE: DECEMBER 2025¹

Pure Water Phase 1 is the largest construction effort the City of San Diego has ever taken on and significant progress has been made towards completion. Each of the eleven construction contracts (early site work contract has been completed) have been awarded and construction is currently estimated to be over 80% through construction. Although Phase 1 is being constructed through ten individual construction contracts via eight independent prime contractors and numerous subcontractors; it is one interconnected project. Relative to the schedule, construction is progressing as planned to meet the major program milestones:

- Begin commissioning of the Phase 1 system, which includes the North City Water Reclamation Plant, North City Pure Water Facility, as well as the Pure Water Pipeline: Mid/Late 2026
- Complete construction of all Phase 1 projects: June 2027
- Begin operation of the entire Phase 1 system to produce 30 mgd of Pure Water: December 31, 2027

As construction activities approach completion, the projects and program are transitioning into the commissioning phase. Commissioning a program of this magnitude is a significant effort that starts with commissioning activities at the individual projects, then culminates in the system-wide commissioning of the combination of projects that make up Pure Water Phase 1. This ensures that influent wastewater can be conveyed and treated effectively at both the North City Water Reclamation Plant and North City Pure Water Facility in sequence, and then successfully conveyed to Miramar Reservoir as purified water.

Phase 2 Planning

The City of San Diego is continuing to prepare for Phase 2 of the Pure Water Program. The construction of a small-scale facility at the Point Loma Plant is nearing completion, and testing will begin soon to demonstrate appropriate treatment options, including for a potential direct potable reuse application, as well as reassessing the facilities needed for Phase 2 of the program.

The original Phase 2 plan was conceived during the development of the 2012 Recycled Water Study. Since that time, several important factors have changed to an

¹ Reproduced from *The City of San Diego Public Utilities Department Fiscal Years 2027-2031 Five-Year Outlook, December 2025*, Page 14 with the approval of the City of San Diego.

extent that it merits re-examination of the plan. These factors include water supply and demand, wastewater flows and availability, water supply dam conditions, climate change and sea level rise, regulatory developments, and affordability for customers. The City is reassessing these factors, updating future projections, evaluating various Phase 2 options, and meeting with key stakeholders to prepare a plan that recognizes changing conditions and manages constraints and opportunities. This planning effort is expected to be finalized by the end of Calendar Year 2026 and any changes to Phase 2 will be incorporated into future outlooks.