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**For Immediate Release:**

## **WALNUT VALLEY RECEIVES \$300,000 CAL OES GRANT TO FUND RESILIENCY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS**

**Walnut, CA (March 17, 2021)** – Walnut Valley Water District (WVWD) has been awarded a \$300,000 from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Public Safety Power Shutoff grant program. Funding from this program will support District resiliency and emergency preparedness efforts to ensure quality and reliable drinking water to over 100,000 Southern California residents.

"One of our main objectives is system resilience, a goal that is completed by achieving system readiness under any circumstance," said General Manager, Erik Hitchman. "The District established this goal as a component of its Strategic Vision Plan in 2019."

The grant funds provide the necessary financial aid to WVWD as it works towards District-wide resiliency during a time with increased power outage possibilities, wildfire and severe heat warnings, and other disaster events throughout WVWD's service area. The emergency generators will enhance the reliability of water distribution to WVWD customers in the event of a prolonged power outage. The grant funds received for the five portable emergency power generators will ensure that WVWD has the infrastructure it needs to respond to disaster and emergency events that are likely to occur. Emergency preparedness efforts such as emergency generators ensure WVWD has the resources it needs to continue operations of its water supply to all of its 100,000 customers now and in the future.

For more information on Walnut Valley Water District, please visit [www.wvwd.com](http://www.wvwd.com).

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**About Walnut Valley Water District**

*Walnut Valley Water District was formed in 1952, and after more than six decades of service to the community, the District operates and maintains two large imported water pipelines, 497 miles of distribution mains, 17 pump plants, and 31 reservoirs with a storage capacity of 94.1 million gallons of water. The District also provides water service to more than 27,000 connections in an area encompassing 17,900 acres, serving a population of more than 100,000 residents and businesses in six local communities.*