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Prima Deshecha Landfill Groundbreaking Ceremony Celebrates the Start of Construction on the County's Second Green Building Project

The Prima Deshecha Green Building is expected to receive the LEED Silver designation

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, Calif. (March 31, 2009) – Orange County Board of Supervisors Chair Patricia Bates today led County officials in a groundbreaking ceremony at the Prima Deshecha Landfill here. The new 10,200 square-foot Green Office Building will replace temporary trailers that have been in use since 1998. The new building will serve as landfill office and crew quarters, in addition to providing conference and storage rooms.

The cost to construct the new building is \$3.65 million. Some of this initial investment will be recovered through the anticipated savings in energy costs of about \$1 million over the life of the building.

The Green Building has been so named because it is expected to receive the LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Silver certification from the US Green Building Council, a non-profit trade organization that promotes sustainability in how buildings are designed, built and operated. The Council offers four levels of LEED certification, which are earned by incorporating environmentally-friendly characteristics in five different categories. The levels of certification are Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. The categories include sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

The new building will be constructed with green building design features and construction methods such as site-generated (landfill gas to electricity) power, paint materials consisting of low volatile organic compounds, energy efficient lighting and heating and air conditioning, fresh

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air ventilation, native landscaping, sky lighting, and roof consisting of native plants. As a result, the new highly energy efficient building will incorporate a healthful air circulation system, and will be constructed with non-toxic building materials, which have a high recycled material content.

Architect for the building is Platt-Whitelaw Architects. Construction contractor is Horizons Construction Company International.

About OC Waste & Recycling

OC Waste & Recycling manages one of the nation's premiere solid waste disposal systems serving 34 cities and over three million residents. On behalf of local residents and businesses, OC Waste & Recycling has developed a solid waste management system composed of a network of three active landfills and four household hazardous waste collection centers. For more information contact Julie Chay, Public Information Officer at 714-834-4059 or Julie.chay@iwmd.ocgov.com.

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