



July 6, 2009

## PERC: New water recycling facility addressed at Good Morning SP

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By **Peggy Kelly**

*Santa Paula News*

Published: **January 09, 2009**

*The city's new water recycling facility is on schedule and gaining fame, those attending Good Morning Santa Paula learned at the December meeting.*

By Peggy Kelly

Santa Paula Times

The city's new water recycling facility is on schedule and gaining fame, those attending Good Morning Santa Paula learned at the December meeting. Santa Paula Water - the entity created that will design, build, operate and finance (DBOF) the water recycling facility - hosted the Chamber of Commerce-sponsored event, held at Logsdon's at the Airport.

Chamber President/CEO John Blanchard said the facility is "state of the art, and when it's finished we'll probably have people come from all the world to see it."

Greg Boyd and Steve Owen of PERC told the crowd about the project, which Owen noted is "enormous... and I thank not only the City Council, but also city staff, especially Cliff" Finley, special projects manager, "for the great work they've been doing on a daily basis on moving the project along."

PERC's motto is "We don't use water, we borrow it," and the company offers a "total solution" to wastewater processing. Owen noted that not only must the city's new facility adhere to tight state water quality mandates, but the project schedule must be met.

"There's always new technology coming out," including that which has emerged since the process was started about 18 months ago. Solar power and more efficient blower systems could save up to 25 percent in energy costs, and Owen said such opportunities are being studied.

PERC - which has completed 19 water recycling facilities and has three under construction - utilizes a small footprint that offers "huge savings" and what Owen said is "a nice, neighbor friendly facility" at a substantial cost savings.

Because of the advanced technology, Boyd said the plant will be operable by "three to four people total to run the facility.... They can operate the plant on their iPhones" to make set point changes and adjustments as needed. The facility will also include a conference room that will be used for educational purposes such as tips on recycling, and tours will be arranged for school students who will learn how the process works.

Owen said Santa Paula Water is an entity created by Alinda Capital Partners - the financing arm of the partnership that holds a 90 percent interest in the corporation, with PERC holding the 10 percent balance. Several cities, he noted, already view the Santa Paula plant "as a model."



### Calendar

July 05, 2009,  
10:30

[First Sunday at the Airport](#)

July 17, 2009, 0:00

[42nd Annual Citrus Festival](#)

July 18, 2009, 0:00

[Foster Parenting Information Meeting](#)

July 18, 2009,  
12:00

[Citrus Festival Car Show](#)

July 23, 2009,  
10:30

[Blanchard Community Library "Connections"](#)

July 26, 2009,  
10:00

[5th Annual Hugs, Slurps & Slobbers Adoptathon](#)

July 27, 2009,  
12:30

[6th Annual Boys & Girls Club of Santa Clara Valley Golf Classic](#)

July 31, 2009,

After more discussion Owen noted, "I can't say enough about how grateful we are to be involved in Santa Paula," and the company has become involved in community events and fundraisers. "We're going to build a great plant, but it takes a partnership. We jumped in" and have been working with staff in a process Owen said has "not been without challenges, but to date it has gone great... and we're looking forward to a long partnership with the city."

17:00  
[Second Annual  
Citrus Classic  
Balloon Festival](#)

August 22, 2009,  
17:00  
[SPHS Class of  
1964 45 Year  
Reunion](#)

August 22, 2009,  
18:00  
[3rd Annual  
Moonlight at the  
Ranch](#)

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submit an event](#)