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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 22, 2007

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Joe Dion Elected New Chair Of Regional Water Authority *Citrus Heights Water Official Will Lead Regional Efforts in 2007*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Joseph Dion, a member of the Citrus Heights Water District Board of Directors, has been elected chair of the Regional Water Authority (RWA) Board of Directors for 2007. Ane Deister, general manager of the El Dorado Irrigation District, has been elected vice chair.

Dion, who has served on the RWA Board since its inception in 2001, has been a director of Citrus Heights Water District since 2000. He served as the Authority's vice chair in 2006.

At RWA, Dion will help guide implementation of the American River Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, adopted in 2006 to better integrate water supply planning efforts in the region. The plan will increase water supply reliability, improve water quality, enhance local flood control and help protect the lower American River and lower Cosumnes River watersheds.

“RWA is steadily moving our region forward through collaboration and sound strategies to improve the reliability of our water supply for the coming decades,” Dion said. “I am pleased to be part of an organization that is meeting our region's water needs while protecting the environment and the interests of our local water customers.”

Outgoing RWA Chair Rob Roscoe noted that 2006 had been a year of significant accomplishments for the Authority, with adoption of the American River plan and notification that the region will receive \$25 million in grant funding from the state to

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implement the integrated regional water plan. The grant, funded by Proposition 50 of 2002, will be shared by RWA and the Freeport Regional Water Authority.

“These developments speak highly of what we’re achieving in this region,” said Roscoe, who will continue to serve on the RWA Executive Committee. “I know we will continue to build on those accomplishments in 2007.”

Deister, who will serve as RWA’s vice chair for 2007, has been the general manager of El Dorado Irrigation District since 2001. She has been a member of the RWA Board since 2003 and also serves on the board of the Association of California Water Agencies.

In addition to Dion and Deister, the following local water leaders have been elected to the 2007 RWA Executive Committee: Paul Selsky, Carmichael Water District; Ken Payne, City of Folsom; Derrick Whitehead, City of Roseville; Tom Gray, Fair Oaks Water District; Paul Schubert, Golden State Water District; Rob Roscoe, Sacramento Suburban Water District; and Shauna Lorance, San Juan Water District.

RWA is a joint powers authority representing 22 water providers in the greater Sacramento area. Its primary mission is to help its members protect and enhance the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources.

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