

Turning water doubters into water users


FOUNTAIN VALLEY - Drinking water that was once in a toilet may not seem appealing. And, local studies show, it's even less appealing to minority groups.

Leaders of O.C.'s new groundwater replenishment system have spent \$300,000 and five years on making the project more palatable to minorities.

Ron Wildermuth, a spokesman for the groundwater replenishment system, said people who immigrate to the U.S. from Third World countries "have a great fear" of the water supply.

Their studies found Latinos and Asians in particular would be less likely to accept drinking water that was once sewage.

A committee recently approved a \$20,000 contract for consultant Suzanna Choi's ongoing outreach to those communities, which are a "key audience" for the project, Wildermuth said. > OC POST

 To view a video of how the groundwater replenishment system works, go to www.gwrsystem.com/process.



The system, set to go on line Saturday, will put treated water that was once sewage into a groundwater basin, where it later would be drawn for human consumption. > OC POST

“ I know the technology works. ... It's logical and practical. ”

Linda Sarno, former president of the Asian Business Association and who holds a master's degree in chemistry