



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

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SPLASH PADS TO SOLAR POWER, COUNTY'S GETTING GREENER *California Center for Sustainable Energy Honors County Innovations*

From a re-circulating water filtration system that zaps harmful bacteria at an aquatic playground to the "cool roof" and solar panels on a new long-term care facility, the County of San Diego is finding more ways to protect the environment and save taxpayer money.

The County has long been a regional leader in reducing its fuel and energy use, and now the California Center for Sustainable Energy is honoring the County with a San Diego Excellence in Energy, or SANDEE, Award for organizational achievement.

"This exciting acknowledgment recognizes the amazing array of sustainability efforts at our many diverse facilities," said Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Dianne Jacob. "Our energetic and forward-thinking conservation team is the secret behind our success," Jacob said.

The SANDEE Awards recognize projects and activities in San Diego County that result in significant energy savings through the implementation of energy efficiency, energy conservation, renewable energy or transportation measures. Chairwoman Jacob will accept the County's award at the 5th Annual SANDEE Award Reception at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 26, at the Omni San Diego Hotel, 675 L St. in downtown San Diego. Among the County's "green" innovations:

- The county's only free water playground at Hilton Head County Park in El Cajon, where a re-circulating water filtration system uses broad-spectrum ultraviolet and chlorinated disinfection to kill harmful bacteria, such as cryptosporidium and ecoli. Savings: \$9,217 annually.
- The replacement of six 45-to-80-ton rooftop air conditioning units with gas-fire heating at the Health Services Complex on Rosecrans Street with a 500-ton modular, ultra-efficient, all-variable speed chiller. Savings: \$220,000 a year; \$260,000 one-time utility incentive payment.
- The new Edgemoor Skilled Nursing Facility, featuring climate control and energy efficient technology, including occupancy sensors, solar panels and extra insulation. Savings: \$207,000 a year on utility bills, \$4.1 million on annual operational costs; \$75,000 one-time utility incentive payment.

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