



PALM BAY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

250 Osmosis Drive, S.E., Palm Bay, FL 32909 • 321-952-3410

Contact: Julie Lemons
Outreach Coordinator
(321) 733-3064
lemonj@pbfl.org
July 9, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UTILITIES PLANT RECOGNIZED AGAIN FOR EXCELLENCE

PALM BAY, Florida – The city of Palm Bay's South Regional Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant was awarded the 2010 Outstanding Membrane Plant Award by the Southeast Desalting Association (SEDA). This marks the second time Palm Bay Utilities and its employees have been recognized for exemplary plant operations and maintenance. In December 2009, Palm Bay Utilities Department received the 2009 Plant Operations Excellence Award from the Florida Department of Environment Protection (FDEP).

The 2010 Outstanding Membrane Plant Award was presented at SEDA's spring 2010 Symposium held June 13 – 16 at the South Seas Resort in Captiva Island, Florida. Accepting the award for the Palm Bay Utilities Department were Timothy VanDeventer, Superintendent for the South Regional Water Treatment Facility; George Cook, Plant Operations Division Manager; Deborah Warner and Richard Daigle, Water Treatment Plant Operators.

In order to be considered for the award, the department submitted a detailed application referencing data and information on the quality of the water produced facility operation and maintenance, employee training and certification, record keeping and reporting, and customer relations. Palm Bay Utilities Department was chosen as the top applicant among entries submitted from across the southeast.

"Our team of operators and maintenance staff continue to prove their dedication and commitment to safety and customer satisfaction," stated Jason Yarborough, Utilities Director.

"As an organization, we take the product and services we deliver very seriously, and it is an honor to be recognized for these efforts by SEDA," Yarborough continued.

SEDA is dedicated to the improvement of the quality of water supplies through membrane desalting and filtration, water reuse, and other water technologies. The Association includes members concerned with environmental regulations and legislation, process design, equipment manufacture, plant operations and maintenance, and research and development. The Association is comprised of members from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Palm Bay Utilities Department is an ISO 14001:2004 certified organization that provides water, sanitary sewer and reclaimed water services to a population of over 107,000 citizens. The city operates two utilities campuses with a total of three water treatment plants capable of providing up to 15.5 million gallons per day of potable water. The South Regional Water Treatment Facility is a state-of-the-art reverse osmosis facility which became operational in 2006 to strengthen and enhance the city's existing distribution system. This facility is located in the southeastern portion of the city in the Bayside Lakes area.

For more information about water treatment or the utilities services, please contact the Palm Bay Utilities Department at (321) 952-3410 or visit www.pbud.org.

###



Picture Caption: Palm Bay Utilities' personnel, Timothy VanDeventer and George Cook, accepting the 2010 Outstanding Membrane Plant Award at the SEDA spring 2010 symposium.