

**2013 Water Reuse Conference**  
**May 15 and 16 – Boise, Idaho**

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**Session Titles:**

1. History of the Largest Reclaimed Water Facility for Irrigation of Food Crops Eaten Raw
2. Would You Use This Water? Would You Eat These Crops?

**Abstracts:**

1. The Monterey County Water Recycling Projects provide irrigation water for 12,000 acres of food crops many of which are eaten without processing. The projects were conceived because of a need for additional water in the most productive part of the Salinas Valley, California. The site-specific drivers that resulted in the projects conception and the process of obtaining growers', regulators', and others' buy-in will be described. The importance of continued customer input will be stressed. The treatment train for producing California Title 22 recycled water for unrestricted use will be described along with modifications needed to optimize improve safety and performance.
2. The process for obtaining regulatory, grower, and public acceptance for irrigating 12,000 acres of food crops with reclaimed water in Monterey County, California will be discussed from the initial safety and marketing studies to the present. The effects of the spinach E. coli O157:H7 crisis in 2006 and the resulting Leafy Green Marketing Agreement reflect on the positive results from customer service approach to providing reclaimed water and the negative effects of perceptions when unrelated to facts. Nearly all wastewater is recycled during the irrigation season. Plan for recycling the remainder of the water will be discussed.

**Professional Background:**

Bob is the Principal Engineer at Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency where he has worked for 23 years. He helps provide recycled water to 12,000 acres of food crops many of which are eaten raw. He is studying the feasibility of treating wastewaters from food processing, agricultural fields, and from a sewage treatment plant as part of indirect potable reuse.

He has a BS in Chemical Engineering from University of California at Berkeley and has an MS in Oceanography from Oregon State University. He is a Registered Civil Engineer in California.

He is a member of the WateReuse Association, American Water Works Association, Water Environment Federation, American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Farm Bureau.