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Commissioner

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***Philadelphia Water Department's Water Pollution Control Plants Receive Awards
Three Facilities Recognized for Environmental Excellence in Wastewater Treatment.***

PHILADELPHIA - The Philadelphia Water Department's three Water Pollution Control Plants have been selected to receive two Platinum and one Gold Peak Performance Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). The Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant received its 7th *Platinum Peak Performance Award* and the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant received its 5th *Platinum Peak Performance Award*, while the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant received its 3rd *Gold Peak Performance Award*.

NACWA's Peak Performance Awards program recognizes member agency facilities for excellence in wastewater treatment as measured by their compliance with their National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. Gold Awards honor treatment plants that have achieved 100 percent compliance for an entire calendar year. Platinum Awards pay special tribute to member agency facilities that have received Gold Awards for five consecutive years.

Water Commissioner Bernard Brunwasser expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the efforts of the men and women at the three Water Pollution Control Plants. "These awards recognize the efforts of all the employees at the Plants as well as support groups that provide various services to operate and maintain the plants, while providing a high level of treatment to wastewater. The peak performance of our treatment plants has given us cleaner and healthier rivers, the source of our drinking water. We are proud to help set the high standards and goals that the NACWA sets and will endeavor to exceed those goals every year."

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies serves the majority of the sewered population in the United States and collectively treats and reclaims more than 18 billion gallons of wastewater each day. The *Peak Performance Awards* program, recognizes public wastewater treatment facilities for their outstanding compliance records in the 2007 calendar year. NACWA was proud to recognize over 400 *Peak Performance Award* facilities during the Association's 2008 Summer Conference and 38th Annual Meeting, held July 15-18, 2008 in Anchorage, Alaska.

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