Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority (VVWRA) serves a 279 square mile area that includes Apple Valley, Hesperia, Victorville, Spring Valley Lake and Oro Grande, California. The plant and employees treat about 10.7 million gallons of wastewater every single day.

To the average homeowner, it may come as some surprise to hear that wastewater is much more than what comes from your toilet. It includes water from sinks, showers, dishwashers and washing machines - anything that goes down the sewer pipe. VVWRA takes that wastewater and sludge, and transforms it.

The wastewater that comes to the VVWRA plant goes through an extensive cleaning and purification process before being returned to the Mojave River, or used in the cooling tower of a nearby power plant. Solids are put in large anaerobic digesters, where the resulting methane gas is used to help power that same power plant. VVWRA is currently able to produce about 90% of its own energy needs with plans to become 100% energy neutral.

Efficiency - in all operations - is critical to VVWRA.

To this end, in August of 2015 VVWRA set out to determine the best and most efficient way to capture and preserve institutional knowledge, for immediate use and operational improvement, and as a resource for future operations. They sought a system that would be useful and accessible to every staff member. Through their research, the idea to move from paper log keeping to electronic log keeping was born. After much discovery, due diligence, and testing, VVWRA selected eLogger as its vendor partner to provide electronic logbook software and support to VVWRA.

eLogger went live in June of 2017 at VVWRA and metrics were put in place to mark and measure achievements. Six months after startup, eLogger had been implemented at Apple Valley Sub Regional, Hesperia Sub Regional, all Interceptors and Collection Systems Structures, Industrial Dischargers, Pump Stations, Regional Plant and FOG/Septic Haulers.

"WWRA is better informed and more knowledgeable about their operations as a result of using eLogger."
To put that into numbers, in just six months:

- 62 different categories of logs are being tracked
- VVWRA is fast approaching 10,000 entries in their new logbook software
- They have 28 active users that utilize the information that is entered into the system to make operational and regulatory decisions
- VVWRA Administrators created 91 different templates to track specific information
- VVWRA Administrators created 59 saved searches and reports so their users could quickly and efficiently capture information

At VVWRA, binders and spreadsheets in the control room are disappearing one at a time, and green ledger logbooks are a thing of the past. eLogger is now being used daily by operations, maintenance, E&I, MIS, and Pretreatment staff across all locations, which means that as an overall operation, VVWRA has unprecedented access to operational information. That information is better organized than ever before, and can be found faster and easier than ever before. AQMD and Stormwater regulatory compliance reports are better, faster, and more accurate. Operational meetings are more focused, due to better understanding of current issues and incidents, and a clear outline of current and completed tasks. The new employee learning curve has improved. Testing is rapidly being completed and the LOTO (Lock out/Tag out) process will be converted to eLogger.

VVWRA has come to recognize that capturing and preserving staff knowledge about plant processes, systems, and procedures is critical to their long-term operational success. This cannot be overstated: VVWRA is better informed and more knowledgeable about their operations as a result of using eLogger.

The future is bright for VVWRA. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of VVWRA staff, their expectations are that in 2018 eLogger will continue to become a more integral and rich knowledge center, improving the daily operations, communications, and efficiency of VVWRA.