



City of Santa Cruz Water Department and Soquel Creek Water District
scwd² Desalination Program

Monthly Project Update – March 2010

Draft Report which Summarizes Results on the scwd² SWRO Desalination Pilot Test Program Available Soon

After 13 months of testing at the scwd² Seawater Reverse Osmosis (SWRO) Desalination Pilot Test Facility, the final report prepared by CDM will be available on our website in early April 2010. This report summarizes the water quality monitoring, pre-treatment comparisons, reverse osmosis pilot testing, and other additional activities/studies that were conducted. For more information on the Pilot Test Program, click [HERE](#).

Tentative Agreement on Concepts for Constructing and Operating a Potential Desalination Facility

The scwd² Task Force has been working on an agreement that records multiple tentative agreements reached, which will facilitate other investigations and tasks related to development, operations, and joint ownership of the proposed desalination project. Among these tentative agreements are items such as when each agency would have priority use of the plant, cost allocations, emergency requests for water, and arbitration procedures for handling disputes. The agreement does not provide project approval nor does it commit the City or the District to construct the desalination facility. The intent is to inform the investigations, environmental review, and design of the project where detail is needed concerning the intended frequency and intensity of use of the facility. Importantly, after completing environmental review, the City or the District can choose to abandon the project or could impose mitigation measures that require changes or adjustments to the tentative terms of the agreement. Final approval of the conceptual agreement by the Task Force is expected next week, to be followed by presentation and approval by each agency's governing body. An earlier version of the agreement was recently approved by the Task Force and the Soquel Creek Water District Board; however, due to some minor language revisions, the document will be taken back to the Task Force and both governing bodies for final approval.

Upcoming Work: EIR and Release of Preliminary Design RFP

The process to prepare a Project-level Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed 2.5 million gallon per day desalination facility is scheduled to begin soon and will look at the environmental aspects of the proposed project. The environmental review process, led by URS Consultants, will provide numerous opportunities for the

public to participate. Preliminary design documents (30% design) are needed to support development of the project description for the EIR and, as such, a request for proposals for design services will be issued in April 2010. For more information on Project EIR, click [HERE](#). For more information on the RFP for design services, click [HERE](#).

Sign-ups for scwd² monthly email updates

The on-line form to sign up for the scwd² monthly email updates was recently not processing on-line submissions. The problem has been corrected and we suggest that if you or anyone that you may know recently signed up, please take a moment and sign up again. Click [HERE](#) to access the on-line form. Upon submission, you should receive an email response within 24 hours (normal business days) that your request has been received. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but we appreciate your interest in the program. Please remember that all email updates are archived and available on our website. To access these, click [HERE](#). The scwd² Email Updates are an easy way to stay informed on the current activities of the Desalination Program, and we encourage you to forward these to friends and colleagues.

Project Information

For more information, please visit our project website at www.scwd2desal.org or call 831.475.8501 x153. Please share these updates with others. If you would like to have Project Updates emailed directly to you, please email your request to melanies@soquelcreekwater.org.

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