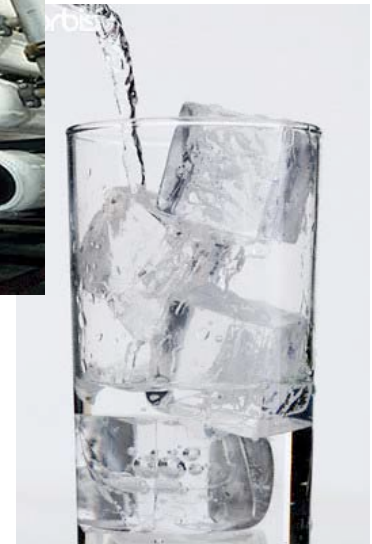


Evaluation of a Seawater Desalination Project in Rosarito, Mexico



Cesar Lopez
MSSC 2010 Salinity Summit
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Water Authority's Seawater Desalination Efforts

- Carlsbad Desalination Project
 - Development and coordination of Agreements to facilitate delivery of desalinated water
- Camp Pendleton Seawater Desalination Project
 - Feasibility Study Complete
 - Negotiating Planning MOU with the Base
 - Planning Studies to start soon
- Rosarito Beach Binational Seawater Desalination Feasibility Evaluation
 - Water Authority working with other Colorado River agencies and Mexico on desalination as a “new supply” for River users
 - Current focus is on the Rosarito Power Station

2005 South County/Tijuana Region Seawater Desalination Feasibility Study

- Four desalination sites studied in US and Mexico
- Key Study Findings:
 - Water supply needs vary between US and MX
 - US – No immediate need for additional supply in South County
 - MX – Near-term water supply deficit
 - Cross border water deliveries will be challenging
 - Varying water quality requirements
 - Federal level treaty/agreement requirements
 - Ownership of facilities outside of international borders
 - Permitting
 - Public perception

Rosarito Beach Binational Seawater Desalination Feasibility Evaluation

- Study Objective – determine if project is feasible before proceeding to Pre-Design
- Collaborating Partners
 - US: San Diego County Water Authority, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Southern Nevada Water Authority, Central Arizona Water Conservation District
 - MX: CNA (Federal), CILA (Mexico Section), CEA (State Agency), CESPT (Local)
- Project Status
 - NTP Issued in October 2009
 - TMs on Data Collection, Site Evaluation, Water Demand Analyses, Environmental and Permitting Issues received
 - Study scheduled for Completion in March
 - “Go – No Go” Decision for next phase anticipated in April



Implementation Issues

- Almost all issues related to implementing a project in Baja California and SoCal are similar
 - Water Quality - Similar requirements
 - Technical – Similar facility siting issues, Intake and Discharge Options, Treatment Processes, Conveyance, etc.
 - Environmental – Environmental laws and regulations are similar
Need to address same issues related to intake (E&I), discharge and energy
 - Permitting – Both extensive and complex
 - Cost - Comparable



Drivers for Desalination in Mexico

- Limited options for supply
 - Limited recycling, conservation and groundwater resources
- Urgent Need for alternative supplies
 - Near-term water supply deficit identified in the 2005 Study
- Economics
 - Potential exchange of water between US Colorado River agencies and Mexico