

Using Kidneys in Reverse Osmosis

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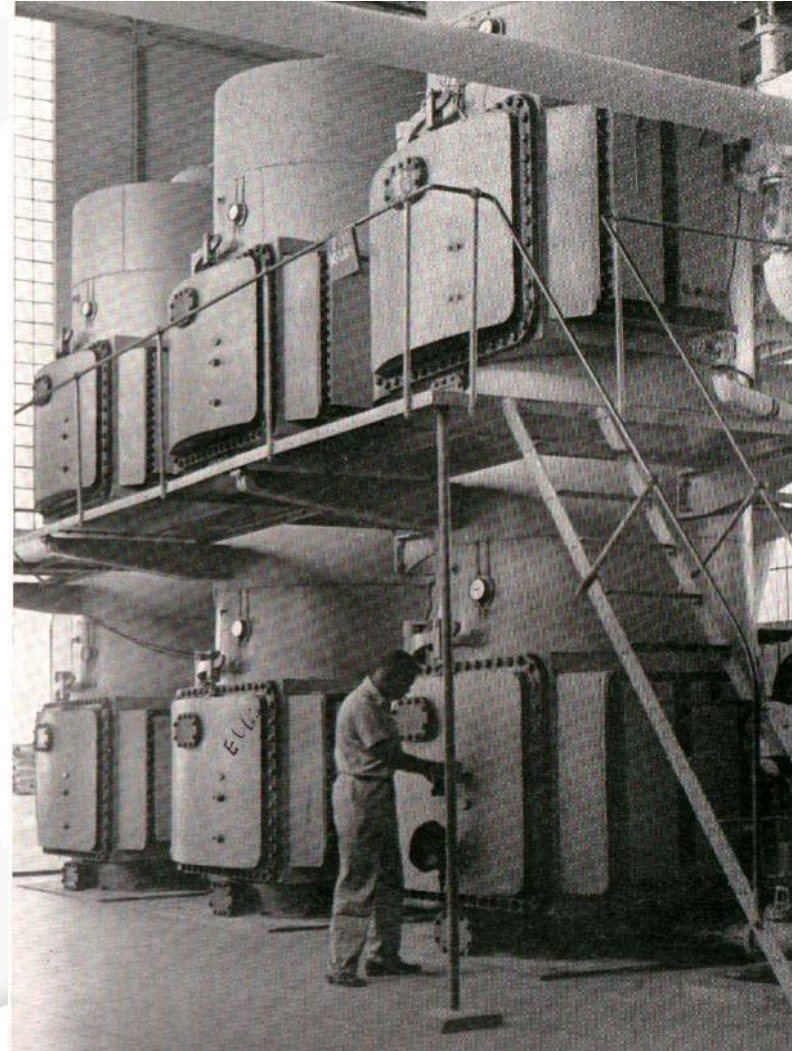
Over 80 Years of Desalting

CaribDA

Caribbean Desalination Association



- ▶ CaribDA has over 130 members
www.caribda.com
- ▶ Some of the first Thermal & Membrane Desal plants
- ▶ Conference in the Cayman Islands, June 1 – 4, 2010



Introduction

- ▶ More than 1,300 BWRO plants in the US produce about 130 MGD/145,610 AFA (assuming 100,000 gpd/system).
- ▶ This number will most likely double within a few years.
- ▶ 185 MGD of water is treated, with about 36.4 MGD going to waste (assuming a 70% system recovery).
This is not sustainable.
- ▶ Where does 36.4 MGD/40,770 AFA (810 tons/day of salts) brine go?
 - Sewers, rivers & the ocean
 - Evaporation ponds
 - Deep well injection

Introduction (cont.)

- ▶ **Brine Issues:**
 - Permits.
 - Increase salinity to other sources.
 - Costs for discharging (energy, land, etc.).
 - Sustainability.
- ▶ Where should it go – recover maximum permeate and use resalable salts.
- ▶ Lost resource for reuse.
- ▶ How do we do it?

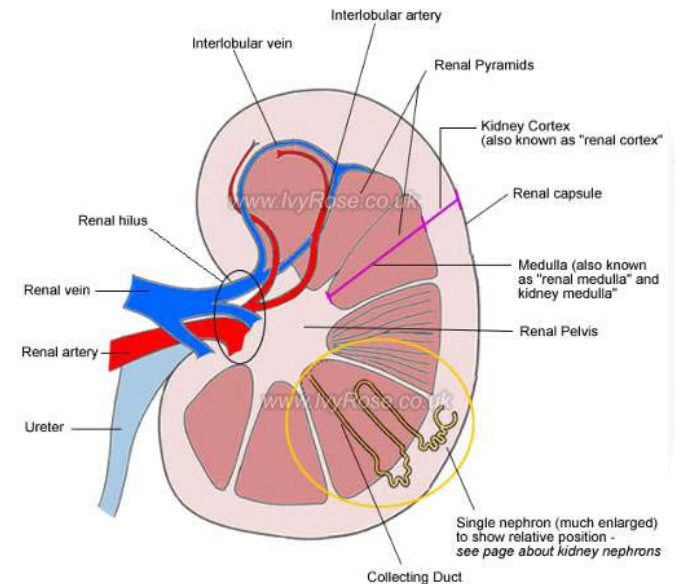
How do we do it? Here's an example

▶ Kidneys in Desalting:

- RO – We all know about RO membranes.
- EDM – Introducing a technology that's been around but keeping a low profile.

▶ Combining Kidneys:

- EDM/ZDD.
- Other bolt-on technologies.



BWRO – Process Scenarios

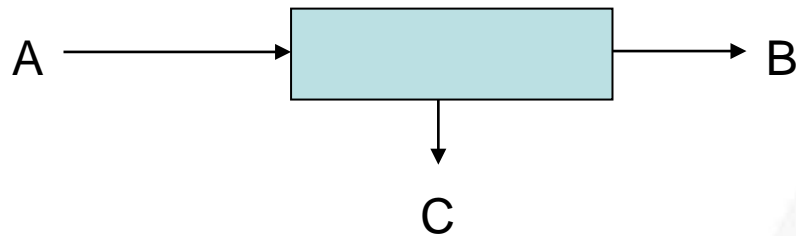
▶ 3-MGD scenarios considered (Alamogordo, NM):

1. Conventional BWRO.
 2. High recovery BWRO with softening.
 3. ZLD.
 4. ZDD.
- All remaining brine to evaporation ponds.
 - ZLD @ 100% (Conventional RO + Evap/Crystallizer) is more than 4½ times the cost to install and operate; therefore, the outcome – **ZLD is not considered for this evaluation**

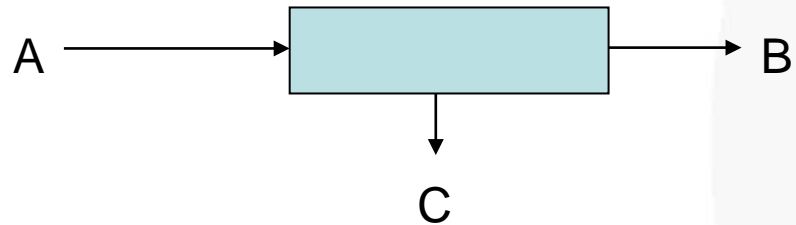
BWRO – Process Scenarios

With Sludge Dewatering System

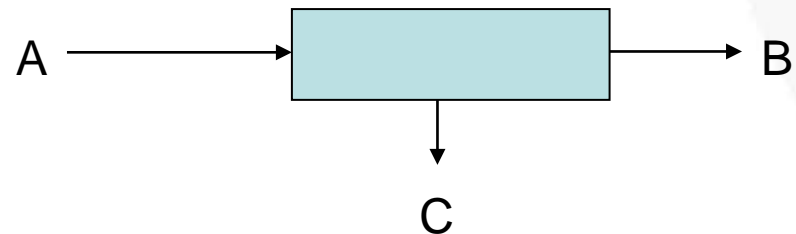
Conventional BWRO @ 72% recovery



Lime Softening & BWRO @ 95% recovery



ZDD @ 97% recovery

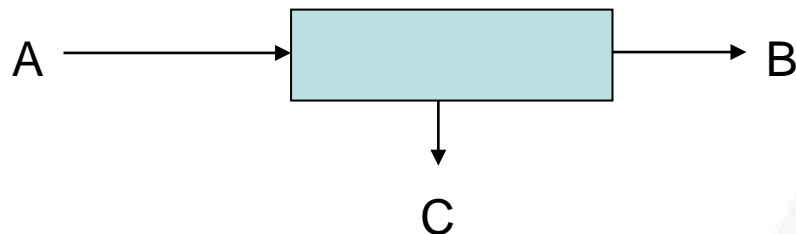


	BWRO	HR BWRO	ZDD
A	4.16 MGD	3.15 MGD	3.09 MGD
B	3 MGD	3 MGD	3 MGD
C	1.16 MGD	0.15 MGD	0.09 MGD

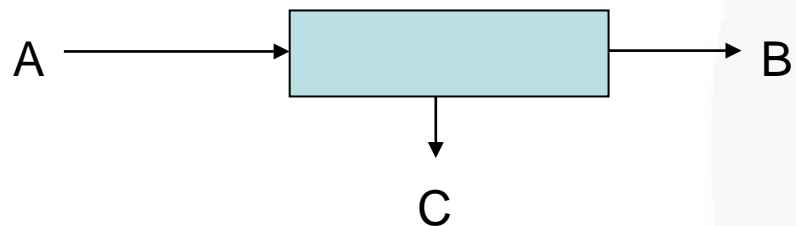
BWRO – Process Scenarios

Without Sludge Dewatering System

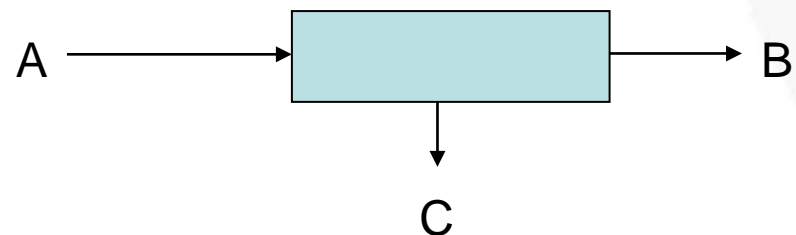
Conventional BWRO @ 72% recovery



Lime Softening & BWRO @ 90% recovery



ZDD @ 94% recovery



	BWRO	HR BWRO	ZDD
A	4.16 MGD	3.33 MGD	3.19 MGD
B	3 MGD	3 MGD	3 MGD
C	1.16 MGD	0.33 MGD	0.19 MGD

BWRO – Process Scenarios

- ▶ **Evaporation Pond Sizing (without dewatering):**
 - \$130,000 / acre lump-sum installation cost.
 - Evaporation rate of 22.8 cm/month (average) per NOAA.
 - **Conventional BWRO@72%**
 - 817 gpm concentrate → 147 acres
 - **High Recovery BWRO@90%**
 - 231 gpm concentrate → 42 acres
 - **ZDD@94%**
 - 150 gpm concentrate → 24 acres

BWRO – Process Scenarios

▶ Comparing the three scenarios:

- ZDD has the lowest installed cost due to the ponds.
- ZDD has a lower chemical cost than HR BWRO.
- ZDD'S highest cost is energy consumption.
(about twice that of BWRO).

▶ Outcome:

- The spreads between the 3 scenarios are within 5-7%.
- Additional evaluation and piloting of ZDD is ongoing.

BWRO – Process Scenarios

▶ Where do we go from here?

- Compare to deep well injection.
- Consider alternate energy sources.
- Continue to look at location-specific saleable products.
- Develop an interactive LCA tool.
- Use ZLD as the benchmark?