

PROPOSED DOHENY OCEAN DESALINATION PROJECT

We need a reliable, drought-proof, locally-controlled, safe water supply

Currently, South Coast Water District (SCWD) relies on imported drinking water from Northern California and the Colorado River to meet about 85 to 100 percent of our water needs. The drought and climate change brought shortages that may change the way we view water forever. The Pacific Ocean is the only remaining, virtually unlimited water supply available.

WE NEED A LOCAL SUPPLY

We must find new ways to diversify our water portfolio and protect ourselves from additional shortages due to drought, water politics, and natural disasters. In South Orange County, where we have almost no groundwater, ocean water desalination could provide a secure, local supply.

WE NEED PURE, HIGH QUALITY DRINKING WATER

Desalination is a proven, state-of-the-art technology used throughout the world. Using reverse osmosis, a proposed desalination facility would clean, disinfect and purify ocean water to produce high quality drinking water. It would also ensure a reliable, drought-proof, and locally controlled safe water supply for us while protecting our prized ocean environment.

WE ARE EVALUATING A PROPOSED PROJECT

The proposed location of the facility, between Pacific Coast Highway and Stonehill Drive next to San Juan Creek, is within about 100 yards of existing regional water transmission lines. Land acquisition for a treatment facility would not be needed – SCWD already owns the property – and there would be no need to construct miles of pipeline before water is distributed, which would save time and costs. With future partners, a facility with the proposed initial capacity of up to five million gallons per day (MGD) could be scaled up to 15 MGD and used as a true regional facility.

WE CAN PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT AND OUR ECONOMY

The proposed Doheny Ocean Desalination Project would be environmentally friendly. The subsurface slant well water intake technology eliminates impacts to marine life, which is an issue with offshore open intake systems.



For more information and to submit comments about the proposed Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, please visit www.scwd.org/desal.

**SOUTH COAST
WATER DISTRICT**

Partnering With The Community





FAST FACTS

IT'S ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

Slant well intake would be built beneath the ocean floor at Doheny State Beach, and the brine would be combined with treated wastewater in the existing San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall pipeline and discharged to the ocean.

THE SITE IS OWNED BY SOUTH COAST WATER DISTRICT

There are no land acquisition costs associated with the District-owned land about a half-mile inland on the east side of San Juan Creek.

THE WATER DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE IS ALREADY IN PLACE

The water distribution system is already adjacent to the site and there is a brine disposal pipeline nearby.



LEARN MORE:

For more information and to submit comments about the proposed Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, please visit www.scwd.org/desal.

As South County residents, we understand the precious nature of our environment and marine life. We value our beach lifestyle and economic well-being. Visitors come from all over the world to stay in our five-star hotels and experience what we enjoy when we wake up every day. Our world-renowned beaches, beautiful carved coastline and abundance of marine life, including whales and dolphins, are economic drivers for our community. Our waves draw surfers from every continent.

SLANT WELLS RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT

The proposed Doheny Ocean Desalination Project would use slant wells buried beneath the ocean floor to ensure protection of marine life. The slant well technology is far superior to open-ocean intake systems because it prevents marine life from being drawn into the desalination facility. It is an advancement preferred by environmentalists and state regulators.

Significant testing of the slant wells has yielded excellent results. Test data and recent modeling predict that the slant wells would draw in 93 to 100 percent ocean water. Here are some other design and operational features of the system:

- » Slant well intake infrastructure would be sub surface, with no visible impact on Doheny State Beach.
- » There is excellent site access and adequate land available for these wells.
- » The brine, which is the salty water left over from the desalination process, would be combined with treated wastewater in the existing San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall pipeline, and discharged to the ocean.
- » The desalination facility would be built on existing SCWD-owned industrial property in close proximity to primary water transmission pipelines and an existing ocean outfall, minimizing construction costs and environmental impacts.



SOUTH COAST WATER DISTRICT

Partnering With The Community

