Pilot Testing of Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) Technologies Using Brackish Ground Water for Inland Desert Communities

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Presentation Outline



Project Costs







Project Background





Pretreatment



Reverse Osmosis

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The Indian Wells Valley Water District is Located in the Mojave Desert



Influent Water Characteristics Present Challenges to Desalting

Well Water Quality

- •pH = 7.1
- •TDS = 1500 mg/L
- •Hardness = 500 mg/L as $CaCO_3$
- •Calcium = 140 mg/L
- •Sulfate = 500 mg/L
- •Silica = 50 mg/L
- •Silt Density Index = 1.0





Contaminants of Concern

- Iron = 40 μ g/L
- •Manganese = $46 \ \mu g/L$
- •Arsenic = $6 \mu g/L$
- •Selenium = $40 \ \mu g/L$

Despite the Many Challenges, Potable Water Can Be Obtained by a Zero Liquid Discharge Treatment Train



Pilot Project Objectives



1. Demonstrate feasibility of selected treatment train.





2. Demonstrate primary RO and secondary EDR can achieve predicted recovery with minimal fouling.

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Pretreatment



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Pretreatment Can Effectively Remove RO Constituents of Concern



- •Fe/Mn Removal
- •Granular Media Filtration
 - •Filtronics FV-03 Electromedia I



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Pretreatment Can Effectively Remove RO Constituents of Concern



Reverse Osmosis



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The RO Unit was Operated for Over 4,000 Hours



The RO Process Can Operate at High Recoveries



The RO Process Produces a Low Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) Product



The RO Process Can Operate with Minimal Fouling



Reversible RO Configuration Has the Potential to Increase Recovery and Decrease Membrane Fouling



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System Normalized Permeate Flow - Reversible Operation vs. Conventional Operation



1st Stage Normalized Permeate Flow -Reversible Operation vs. Conventional Operation



2nd Stage Normalized Permeate Flow -Reversible Operation vs. Conventional Operation



RO Concentrate Silt Density Index (SDI) Indicates Particle Removal After Flow Reversal



Electrodialysis Reversal



Project Costs





Project Background





Pretreatment



Reverse Osmosis

Electrodialysis Reversal

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The EDR was Operated Continuously for Over 1,600 hours





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Reduced RO Recovery to Meet EDR Feed Requirements



EDR can Effectively Remove TDS from the RO Concentrate

EDR can Achieve High Recoveries

EDR Performance has been Stable

EDR Performance has been Stable

RO Primary Desalting and EDR Secondary Desalting can Achieve High Overall Recovery

RO Primary Desalting and EDR Secondary Desalting can Produce a Low TDS Product

Project Costs

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Limiting the Volume of Brine for Final Treatment Reduces Cost

	Reverse Osmosis	Concentration	
Capital – 1 mgd	\$2 million	\$22 million	
Power (kWh/1000 gal)	2.2	90	

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Impact of Overall Recovery is Significant – Example: 1-mgd Plant

Limiting the Volume of Brine for Final Treatment Reduces Cost – Full-Scale Facility at 2.7 mgd

	Capital Cost (MM\$/yr)	O&M Cost (MM\$/yr)	Total Cost (MM\$/yr)
RO + BC	2.8	3.7	6.5
RO + EDR + BC	2.4	2.6	5.0

Summary and Conclusions

1. Selected treatment train is feasible.

2. Primary RO and secondary EDR can achieve predicted recoveries.

3. The reversible function has potential to improve RO performance, but additional testing is needed.

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Acknowledgements

- California Department of Water Resources (Chapter 6(a) of Proposition 50)
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Questions?

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Engineers...Working Wonders With Water**

Comparing Water Costs Indicates that Costs are Reasonable Given Water Quality and Inland Location

