

Orange County Coastkeeper opposes the proposed Huntington Beach Desalination Project and here's why:

- Using destructive 1960's intake technology is not right for a 21st century project
- More practical and cost effective alternatives exist
- Even with droughts, we have all the water supplies we will need for the next 25 years

Protect your *wallet* and the *environment*!
Educate yourself on facts that project supporters aren't telling the public.

To learn more and get involved, please visit:

California Desal Facts:
<https://www.californiadesalfacts.org/>

Orange County Desal Coalition:
<http://on.fb.me/1Ji0Kde>

Pacific Institute: Desalination costs and Financing:
<http://bit.ly/1UJaFKL>

Surfrider Foundation Video:
<http://vimeo.com/10328536>

NRDC: Proceed with Caution
<http://on.nrdc.org/2FvV4ge>

Environmental Impact Report of the proposed project:
<http://bit.ly/2b0irnp>



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**THE TRUTH ABOUT
THE PROPOSED
HUNTINGTON BEACH
DESALINATION PROJECT**



Desalination 101:

Desalination is the process of removing salt from seawater to produce drinkable water. It is the most expensive way to produce water due to its massive energy requirements. Typically, it is used only as a last resort when no other options exist. Desalination plants must be carefully located and designed to minimize environmental damage. For example, subsurface intakes should be used instead of hooking up to a power plant cooling system.

Desalination itself is not inherently bad, but this project is.

Poseidon Resources, owned by Brookfield Infrastructure Partners, L.P. is attempting to use antiquated, environmentally damaging technology for its proposed Huntington Beach desalination facility.

Community impacts:

- ❖ The cost of water will increase, resulting in higher water rates to citizens.
- ❖ Local energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions will rise. Poseidon will use enough energy to power 30,000 homes.
- ❖ Ocean water quality will be degraded by the dumping of brine (concentrated salts) into the ocean.
- ❖ Use of ocean surface intakes will continue the destruction of fish stocks.

There are serious problems with the Huntington Beach proposal

- ❖ Adopting Poseidon's plans would be a pivotal step toward *privatization* of our water supply. This may pave the way for corporations to control what has historically been a public resource and diminish the public's control of our water supply system.
- ❖ Public agencies are better suited to design, own, and operate desalination projects, as community benefits are their top priority.
- ❖ Poseidon is seeking public financial support for a *privately funded* project.
- ❖ The *2018 Water Reliability Study*, released by our water supplier, *MWDOC*, ranked Poseidon last among our water supply options. It is also the most expensive and poses the greatest financial risk to ratepayers.

Poseidon's track record speaks for itself:

As of 2019, Poseidon's Carlsbad plant (Claude "Bud" Lewis Desalination Plant) has had over 86 violations to their waste discharge permit. This included failing required water toxicity tests, spills, and discoloring the ocean. After four years of operation, the Carlsbad Plant is still not producing the volume of water promised. Poseidon has to prove success before they build another plant.

If not Poseidon's proposed desalination facility, then what?

More practical and cost effective alternatives exist, here are just a few:

- ❖ *Conservation and storm water capture* options should be fully implemented prior to taking on costly and destructive desalination projects.
- ❖ The Orange County Ground Water Replenishment System produces 100 million gallons a day of fresh water from *treated wastewater*. This proven state of the art technology, implemented by a public agency, has drastically lower costs than the proposed desalination process.
- ❖ *Recovering groundwater and urban runoff* can provide water at lower costs and produce environmental benefits by reducing groundwater and ocean pollution.

