



SEAWATER DESALINATION

THE FACTS

IT'S EXPENSIVE

Due to high capital costs and exorbitant energy demands, desalinated ocean water costs over **\$2,100 per acre-foot**, more than desalting (brackish) groundwater, harvesting rainwater, purifying wastewater and far more than water conservation and efficiency programs.

IT'S ENERGY INTENSIVE

Taking salt out of seawater requires more energy than harvesting rainwater, purifying wastewater, and even more than pumping water hundreds of miles across the state to LA.

Our studies estimate that desalinating 20-60 million gallons of seawater per day, as proposed by West Basin, will contribute **~44,000 metric tons of CO₂** being released into our atmosphere every year.

IT'S A BAD INVESTMENT

Australia tells a cautionary tale: 4 of the 6 desal plants built during their drought now sit idle, with water bills in Victoria going up 34% and taxpayers on the hook for \$1 billion in 2015 alone!

IT SHOULD BE OUR LAST RESORT

Mayor Garcetti's *Sustainability pLAN* aims to obtain 50% of LA's water locally by 2035, with none of that local water coming from desalination.

California State Assembly Select Committee on Water Consumption and Alternative Sources concluded in a March 2016 report that "[d]esalination should be used as an option of last resort."

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