

Poseidon begins applying for permits in HB

Poseidon sets its eyes on Huntington Beach to build a massive private desalination plant.

1999

Poseidon builds a plant in Carlsbad

Poseidon builds a massive desalination plant in Carlsbad that has been fined for multiple permit violations and non-delivery of promised water. Water rates in San Diego skyrocket.¹

2015

Poseidon contributions to Newsom and multi-million dollar lobbying effort

After she left office in 2017, Poseidon hires former U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer to advocate for its Huntington Beach plant. Boxer never registers as a lobbyist. Gov. Newsom receives \$25,000 for his inauguration from Poseidon. Axiom Advisors is founded in 2018 by former partners of Gov. Newsome's friend, Jason Kinney. In January 2019, Kinney joins Axiom, and days later, the firm takes on Poseidon as a client.

2017-2019

Gov. Newsom guts the Brown Act

COVID hits California and the Brown Act is gutted by Executive Order limiting public participation.² Poseidon pushes the Regional Water Board to expedite the proceedings anyway.

March 2020

Poseidon supporter meets with future Board member

Ernesto Medrano meets with soon-to-be-appointed Water Board Member Letitia Clark. Campaign disclosures show Clark received contributions from Medrano's trade organization that supports Poseidon.

April 2020

Gov. Newsom administration has *illegal* private calls with three Board members

The Newsom administration calls Water Board Members during the July/August proceedings touting the Governor's Water Portfolio in relation to Poseidon. The *ex partes* were not disclosed for six months.

July/
August 2020

Gov. Newsom ousts Poseidon critic, appoints Clark who has backing of desal supporter

Water Board Vice-Chair Von Blasingame, an engineer, is ousted and Letitia Clark is appointed 5 months after meeting with Ernesto Medrano. A month later, Newsom is spotted celebrating his friend and Poseidon lobbyist Jason Kinney's birthday at the French Laundry ignoring COVID protocols.

October 2020

Disclosures show Newsom's administration interfering with Water Board decision-making through illegal calls

When asked through a public records act request how many times the Newsom Administration met with Poseidon, the Governor's office refused to answer. Water Board disclosures revealed the *illegal* calls six months after they occurred. California Government Code Section 11430.10 prohibits *ex parte* communications on issues pending before the Regional Water Board.

February 2021



**Poseidon's technology has not changed,
HB plant would be powered by fossil fuels**

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/jun/23/millions-of-americans-cant-afford-water-bills-rise>
2. <https://www.meyersnave.com/newsom-issues-three-covid-19-brown-act-orders-heres-what-he-urgently-changed/>