



Residents for Responsible Desalination

"Organized for coastal protection advocacy and education about seawater desalination."

March 2, 2022

Dear Friends of the Coast:

R4RD continues its opposition to the proposed **Poseidon Water/Brookfield** seawater desalination project in HB by preparing for the project's hearings with the California Coastal Commission (CCC), the State Lands Commission (SLC), and the California Debt Limit Allocation Committee (CDLAC).

The most relevant of these hearings was supposed to be with the **California Coastal Commission (CCC)** in a *special hearing* on March 17, 2022. Though previously scheduled and rescheduled for many months, R4RD and its coalition partners must now wait for Poseidon to get its act together and again reschedule its permit hearing for May—maybe, June—or whenever.

The Poseidon permit hearing will, hopefully, be held locally and in-person where the public may attend "live". Instructions for public participation can be found on www.coastal.ca.gov by pulling up the monthly meeting agendas and choosing the appropriate agenda.

Though this CCC hearing will be an immediate "must" whenever it's held, R4RD will continue opposing other aspects of this monstrous project's adverse impacts. For example: The project's product desal water is nebulously planned for delivery via public pipe networks constructed and operated under the auspices *and cost* of the **Orange County Water District (OCWD)**, also known officially as Poseidon's "**project partner**".

Yet, after decades of proposals, **OCWD**, as Poseidon's "*project partner*", has not determined the routing for the large-diameter pipelines meant for delivery of the project's desal water. In other words, neither **OCWD** nor the public (nor Poseidon, for that matter) knows where the desal water is going *and at what cost*.

On whatever the hearing date, **OCWD** will have its Board Directors and Staff speak as to the critical importance of and the need for the project's product water, particularly in times of drought. But it's not important or in need enough to decide on where to pipe the product water. Instead, **OCWD** chose to formally support a ballot initiative that, if passed, would make Coastal Commission and judicial CEQA decisions regarding the Poseidon and like projects moot.

R4RD, its allied organizations, friends, and neighbors continue in opposition to Poseidon because we **neither want nor need** the desalination plant's product water. We don't want the price of our water to increase unreasonably due to adding an unneeded supplier. We don't want the near offshore marine environment negatively impacted by a desalination plant's seawater intake and hypersaline brine discharge. We don't want the industrial noise and pollution associated with a desalination plant. We don't want nearby streets excavated for multiple years for pipelines without any clear destination for all that desal water. We don't want an additional massive industrial project across the street from residential neighborhoods.

You can let the California Coastal Commission hear your opposition before March 17 by writing to them at:

California Coastal Commission,
Attn: Executive Staff
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Or you can email the California Coastal Commission at:

huntingtonbeachdesalcomments@coastal.ca.gov

Or you can find out more at:

<https://www.californiadesalfacts.org>

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R4RD will appreciate a donation of any amount, and, if you're a member, paying any dues outstanding. If you're not an R4RD member, please consider becoming one. All payments can be made via mail or electronically via [www.r4rd.org](http://www.r4rd.org) by selecting the "Donate" button. Thank you and stay safe and well.

~~Dave Hamilton, *pres.*

~~*Residents for Responsible Desalination*