

# **The San Diego County Water Authority Experience with Delivery Methods**

**Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Recycled Water Committee  
July 19, 2016**



**Maureen A. Stapleton,  
General Manager**

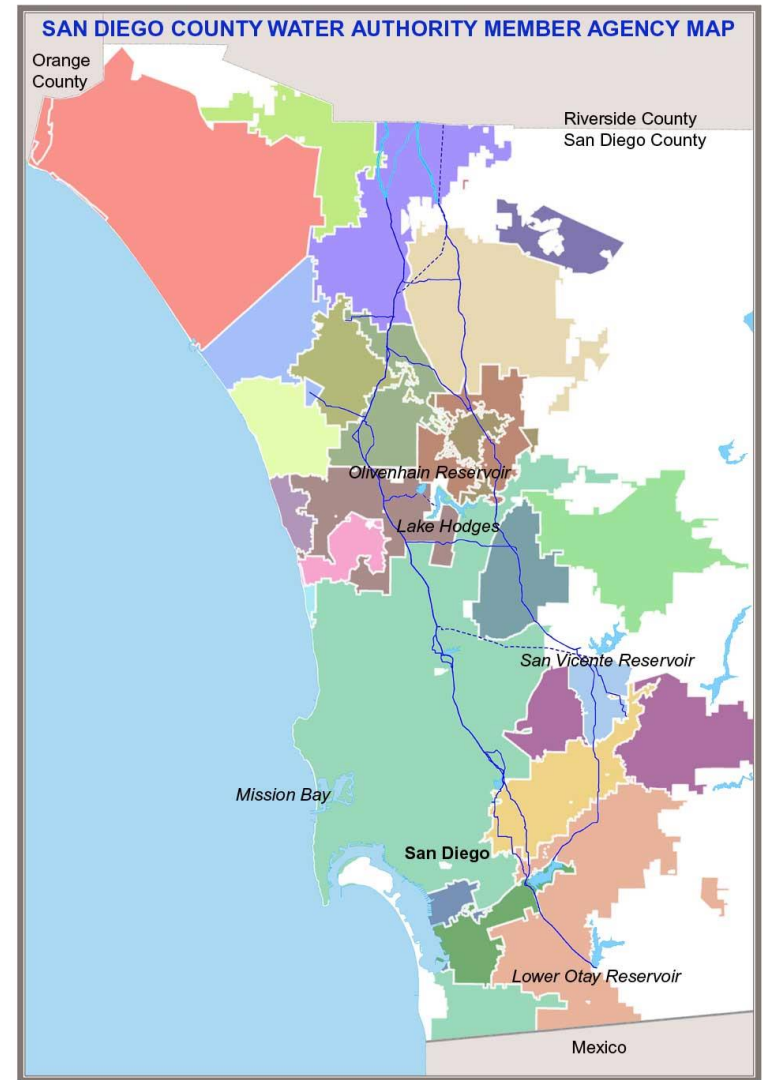
# San Diego County Water Authority

Wholesale water agency created by State Legislature in 1944

- ▶ 24 member agencies
- ▶ 36-member board of directors
- ▶ Serves 3.2 million people and region's \$218 billion economy

Imports 80%–90% of water used in San Diego County

- ▶ Added desalinated seawater to local supply in late 2015
- ▶ Builds, owns, operates and maintains large-scale regional water infrastructure
- ▶ Largest member agency of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California



# Increasing San Diego County's Water Supply Reliability through Supply Diversification

**1991**

28 TAF

5%

550 TAF

95%

**Total = 578 TAF**

**2020\***

80 TAF

14%

43 TAF

7%

56 TAF

10%

33 TAF

6%

52 TAF

9%

8 TAF

1%

126 TAF

21%

190 TAF

32%

**Total = 588 TAF**

**2015**

80 TAF

15%

26 TAF

5%

18 TAF

3%

4 TAF

1%

100 TAF

19%

305 TAF

57%

**Total = 533 TAF**

**2035\***

80 TAF

12%

57 TAF

8%

72 TAF

10%

36 TAF

5%

51 TAF

7%

110 TAF

16%

200 TAF

29%

88 TAF

13%

**Total = 694 TAF**



Metropolitan Water District



All American & Coachella Canal Lining



Seawater Desalination



Local Surface Water



Imperial Irrigation District Transfer



Recycled Water



Groundwater



Potable Reuse

**Attachment 2**

\* Includes verifiable and additional planned local supply projects from 2015 UWMP

TAF=Thousand Acre-Feet

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# Historic Investments in Infrastructure

**San Vicente Dam Raise & Related Projects**  
\$816 million



**Carlsbad Seawater Desalination Projects**  
\$1 billion

Plant Site



**Olivenhain Dam & Reservoir**  
\$198 million



**Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant**  
\$179 million



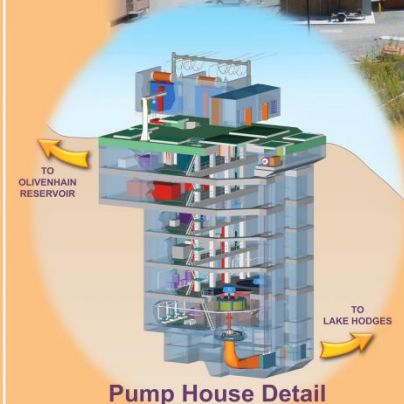
**All-American & Coachella Canal Lining Projects**  
\$447 million  
(\$190 million from Water Authority)



**Pipeline Relining**  
\$493 million



**Lake Hodges Projects**  
\$208 million



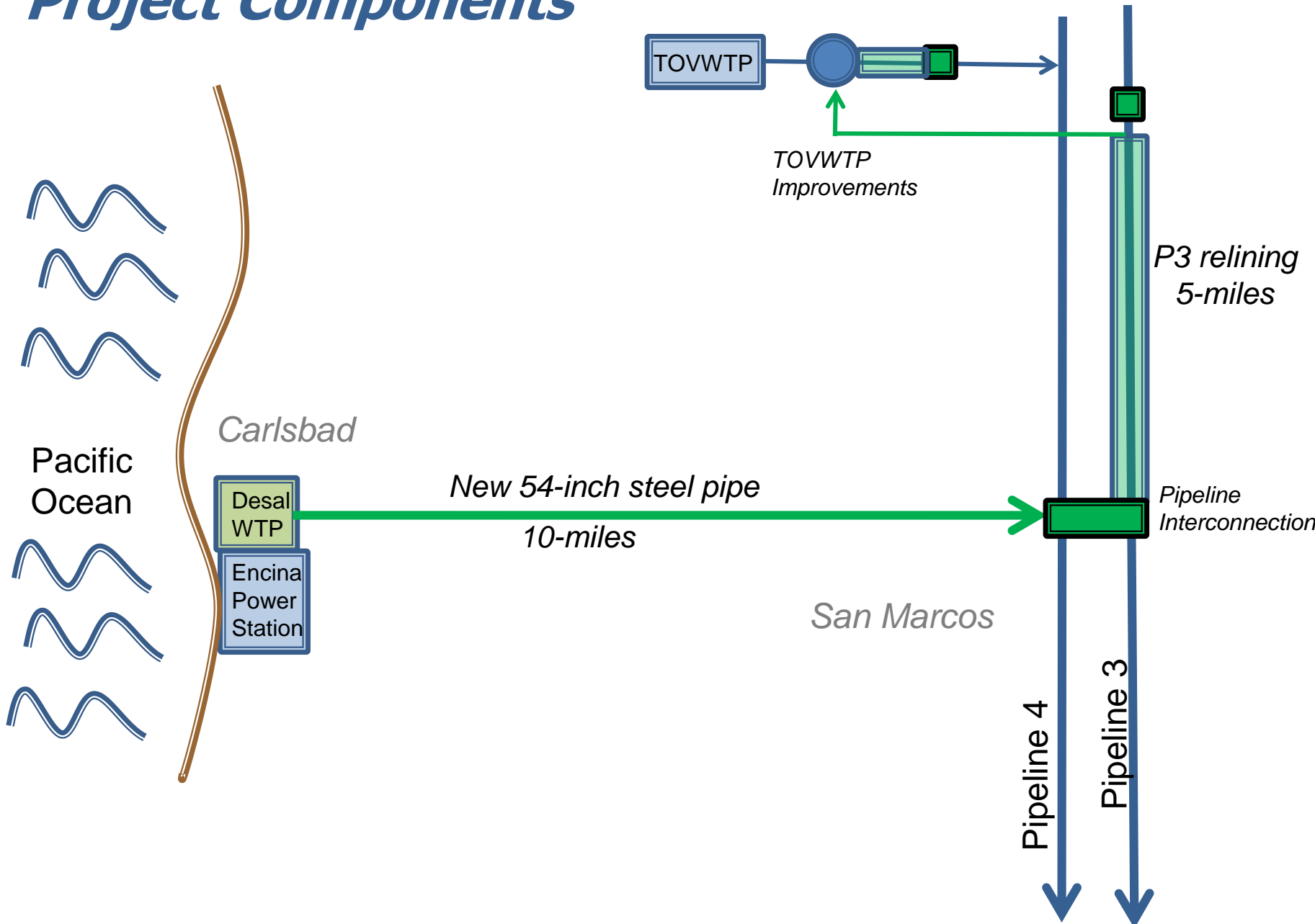
Pump House Detail

# Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant

- Owned and operated by Poseidon Water
- 30 year contract
- \$1 billion investment
- 48,000-56,000 acre-feet/year of drought-proof supplies
- Largest, most advanced seawater desalination facility in North America
- On-line in December 2015



# Project Components



# *Carlsbad Desalination Projects*



# ***Total Project Costs***

## **Total Capital Cost**

Total desalination plant	\$537 million
Total conveyance pipeline	\$159 million
Financing costs	\$227 million
Water Authority improvements and oversight	\$80 million
<b>Total Capital Costs</b>	<b>\$1.003 billion</b>

## **2016 water purchase price\* (includes pipeline)**

\*Current estimate based on highest electricity rate applicable

<b>56,000 acre-feet per year</b>	<b>48,000 acre-feet per year</b>
<b>\$2,131 /AF</b>	<b>\$2,367 /AF</b>

# Project Financing Structure

- ▶ 82% funded through Bonds issued via the California Pollution Control Financing Authority
  - Plant Bonds issued as Tax-Exempt Private Activity Bonds with Poseidon as sponsor
  - Pipeline Bonds issued as Tax-Exempt Governmental Purpose Bonds with the Water Authority as sponsor
  - Bonds sold on December 24, 2012
  - Interest rate 4.78%
- ▶ 18% Cash Equity from Stonepeak Infrastructure



# Landmark Water Purchase Agreement between the Water Authority and Poseidon

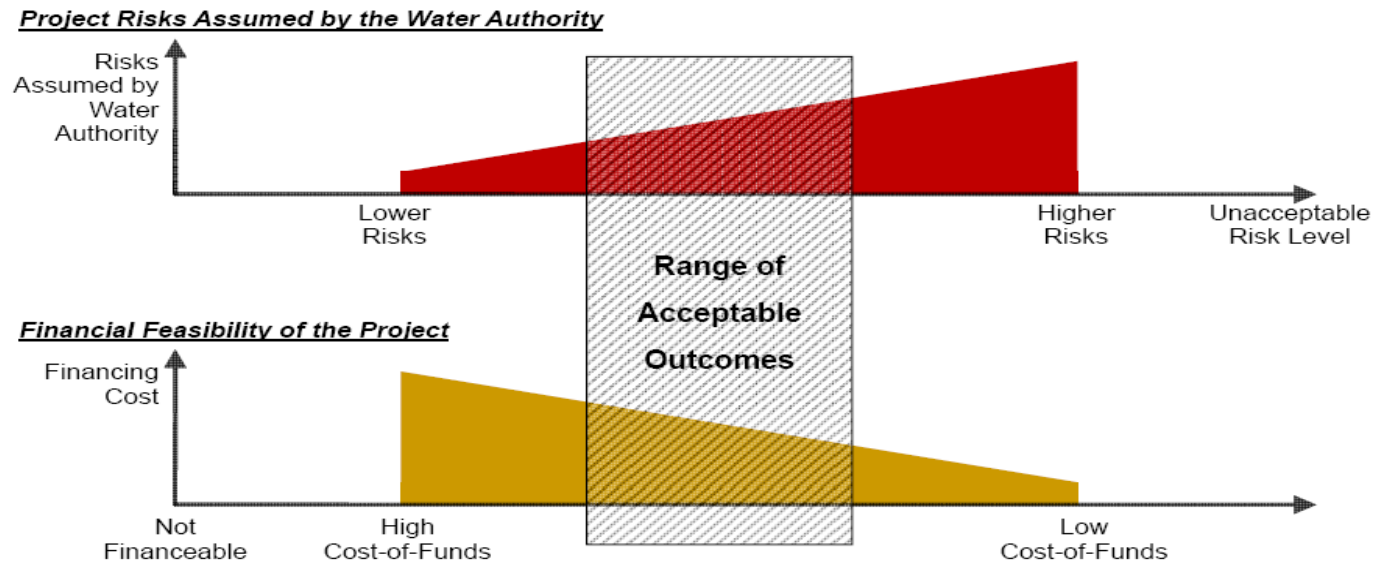
- ▶ Water Authority Board approved WPA on Nov 29, 2012
- ▶ Outlines commercial and financial terms for production and delivery of water from the Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Project
- ▶ Transfers risk to private developer



# Key Objective of WPA

## Balancing Price and Risk

- ▶ SDCWA had never constructed or operated a seawater desalination facility
- ▶ Assign appropriate risks to private developer at minimum cost to ratepayers



# Project Structure – Desalination Plant

- ▶ Developer/Owner
  - Poseidon Water
- ▶ Construction/Operation of the Plant
  - WPA between Water Authority and Poseidon
  - Contractor – Kiewit/Shea Desalination
  - IDE Technologies provided process technology
  - Plant Operations and Maintenance also provided by IDE



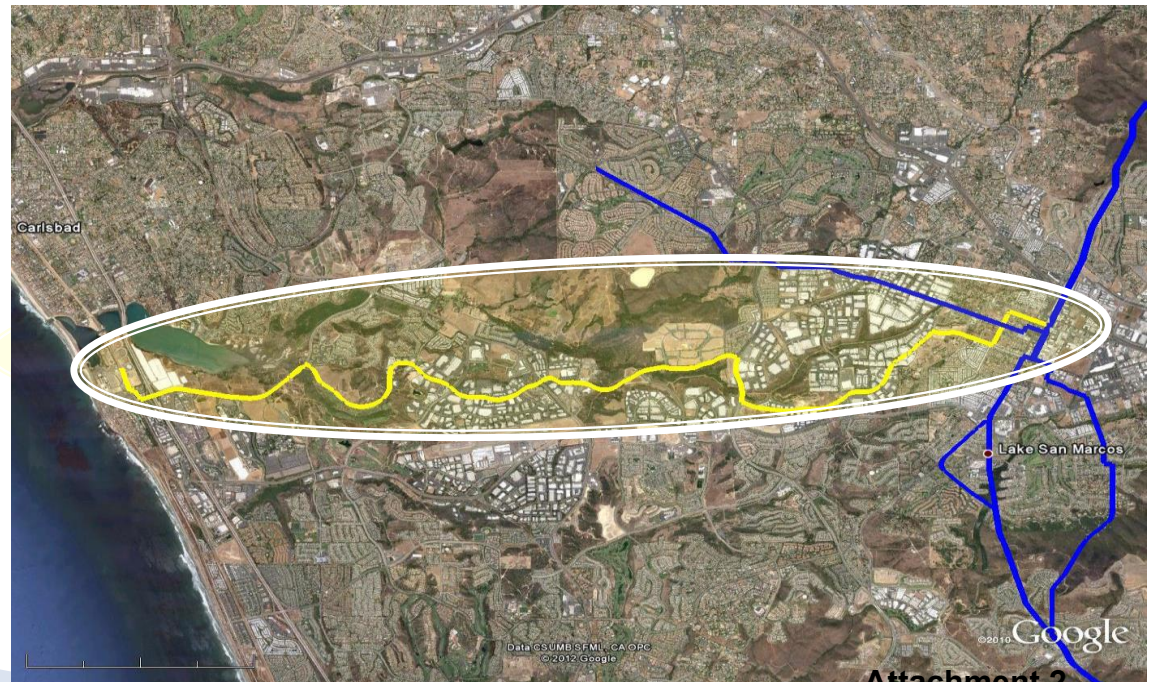
# Site Lease

- ▶ Poseidon long-term site lease arrangement with NRG, owner of the Encina Power Station
- ▶ Lease Area: 5.7 acres
  - ▶ Easements: 12 acres
- ▶ Lease Term: 35 years from start of commercial operation, plus two 10-year extensions
- ▶ Rent escalates with CPI



# Project Structure – Conveyance Pipeline

- ▶ Owner/Operator
  - Water Authority
- ▶ Construction of Pipeline
  - Design–Build Agreement between Water Authority and Poseidon
  - Contractor – Kiewit Shea Desalination



# Project Risk Allocation

Risk Description	Poseidon & Investors	Water Authority
<b><u>Construction Risk</u></b> – that facility is not completed on time, on cost and according to design standards	X	
<b><u>Permitting Risk</u></b> – that current permit and environmental mitigation requirements increase	X	
<b><u>Change in Law Risk</u></b> – that future unanticipated laws or regulations increase operating costs	X	X
<b><u>Technology Risk</u></b> – that the plant technology does not perform as expected	X	
<b><u>Output Risk</u></b> – that the plant produces less than the projected volume of water	X	
<b><u>Operating Margin Risk</u></b> – that the price of water is not adequate to generate enough revenue to pay expenditures or may increase more than projected	X (Budget Cap)	X (Subject to CPI)
<b><u>Pipeline Operating Risk</u></b> – the Pipeline connecting the Plant to the regional aqueduct system and appurtenant facilities transport acceptable water to Water Authority wholesale customers	X	X
<b><u>Electricity</u></b> – the cost of electricity is accounted for in the water price	X (Electricity Consumption)	X (Electricity Price)



# Risks Transferred

- Construction and Operating Cost Overruns
- Timely Project Completion
- Regulatory and Law Compliance
- Regulated or Differing Site Conditions
- Capital Maintenance, Repair and Replacement
- Labor Supply and Relations



# Risks Retained by Water Authority

- Changes in Law that affect all desalination plant operators or wastewater dischargers
- Cost of Intake Modifications due to expected power station closure (*also a change in law*)
  - Closure-related capital costs capped at \$21.3million (indexed)
  - Closure-related operating costs capped at \$2.7 million
- Uninsurable Force Majeure Events
- Unusual Raw Seawater Water Parameters (no additional compensation)
- Retained risks are “uncontrollable circumstances”



# ***Water Authority/ Poseidon Responsibilities***

## ▶ Poseidon

- Permit, Design, and Build the Desal Plant
- Permit, Design, and Build the Conveyance Pipeline (design–build agreement)
- Own, operate, and maintain the Desal Plant
- Supply Product Water that meets water quality requirements

## ▶ Water Authority

- Timely Construction of Required Aqueduct Improvements
- Own, operate, and maintain the conveyance facilities
- “Take or Pay” for Product Water, if it meets specifications (minimum commitment of 48,000 AF/Year)



# Water Purchase Payments

- ▶ Monthly, based on actual deliveries in acre–feet
- ▶ First 48,000 acre–feet per year paid at Fixed and Variable Price
- ▶ Next 8,000 acre–feet paid at Variable Unit Price
- ▶ If Poseidon does not deliver, Water Authority does not pay



# Price Increases Under WPA

- ▶ Unit costs set and can only increase consistent with WPA provisions
- ▶ Annual operating cost increases generally tied to rate of inflation
- ▶ Price may also increase due to unanticipated changes in law or regulations
  - Changes generally apply industry-wide
  - Cannot exceed 10% in single-year or maximum 30% increase over 30-year term



# Performance Guarantees

- ▶ **Product Water Quality Guarantee**
  - Compliance with all federal and state drinking water regulations
  - Additional standards for certain water quality parameters
- ▶ **Minimum Product Water Delivery Guarantee**
  - Annual supply to meet SDCWA demands (between 48,000 and 56,000 AF)
- ▶ **Water Ordering Rights**
  - Water Authority has rights to adjust delivery orders to reflect seasonal and daily demand changes



# Termination & Purchase Options

- ▶ Purchase options at Water Authority sole discretion
- ▶ Convenience termination
  - Early buy-out provisions after 10 years
- ▶ End of term
  - \$1 at end of 30-year term
- ▶ Event of default
  - Poseidon bankruptcy
  - Repeated violations of primary drinking water standards



# WPA – Ratepayer Protection

- ▶ *Risk Transfer* to Poseidon/Contractor team
- ▶ *Price certainty* throughout WPA term
- ▶ *Buy-out provisions* after 10 years of operation
- ▶ *Transfer to public ownership* at the end of the 30 year agreement



# DBOOT Pros and Cons

## ▶ Pros:

- Risk transfer to the private sector
- Speed (design and construction can proceed concurrently)
- A commodity purchase with defined terms and conditions
- Performance guarantees
- Approval rights over acceptance/performance testing
- Debt is kept off the public agency balance sheet

## ▶ Cons:

- Take or Pay contract
- Higher cost of capital
- Greater overall transactional complexity
- Limited public agency input regarding design, construction and operations
- Public agency does not have a direct relationship with contractors





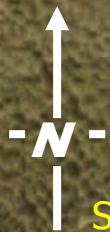
# Design – Build – Operate Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant



# *Twin Oaks Valley WTP*

- ▶ 100 mgd submerged membrane WTP, ozone and biologically active carbon contactors
- ▶ Solids handling facilities, water control facilities, emergency power generators
- ▶ Environmentally-friendly project
- ▶ 15 years of O&M, with 5-year optional extension
- ▶ Fixed Design-Build Price = \$157M
- ▶ Annual Service Fee = \$7 million (2015)





Pipeline 5  
Pipeline 4  
Pipeline 3

Submerged Membrane Facility

Untreated Water Flow Control Facility

ESP Pump Station

Ozonation Facilities

Biological Activated Carbon Contactors

Solids Processing

Chemical Facilities

Switchgear Facility & Generators

Access Road

Clearwell #2

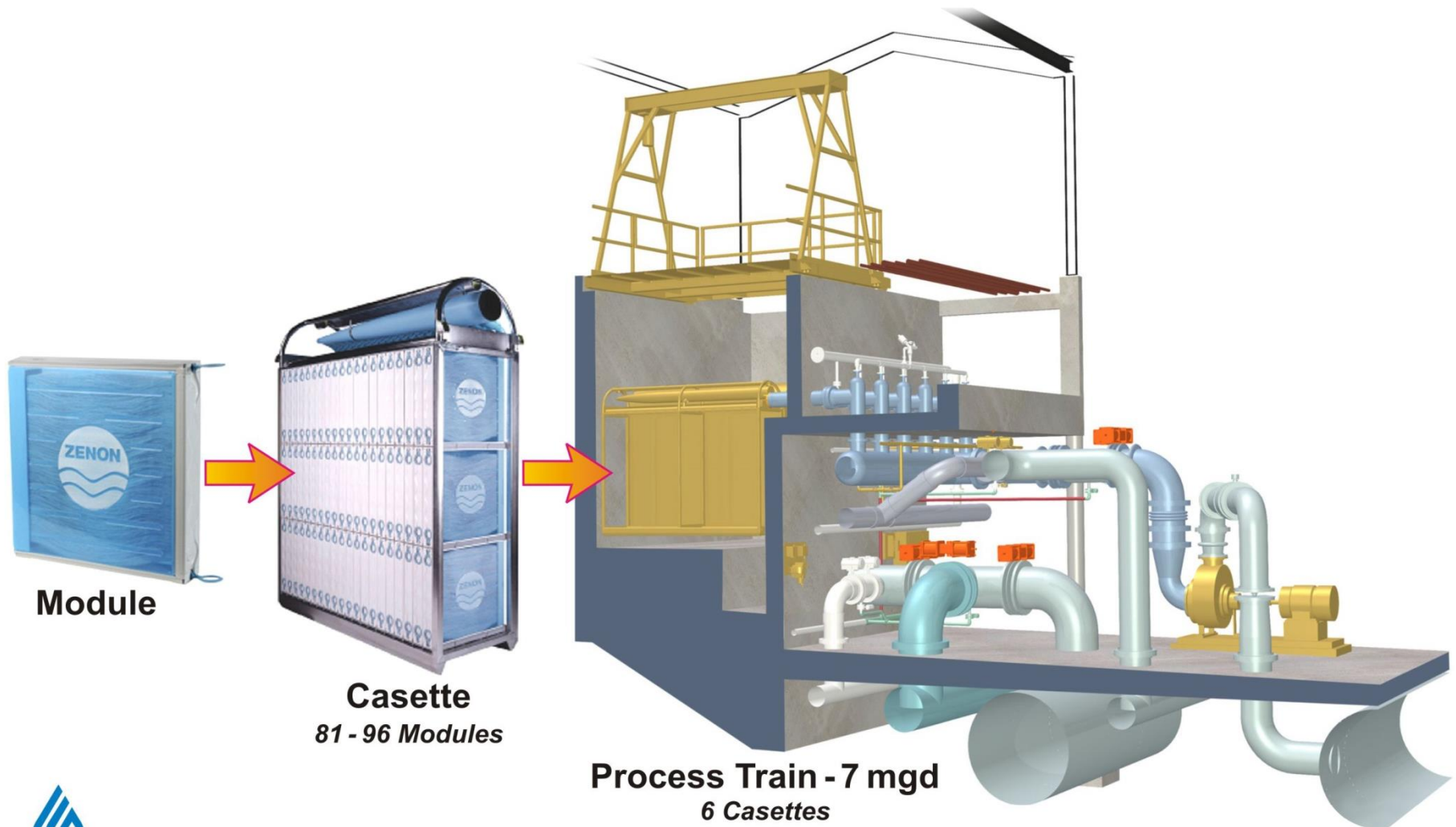
Chemical Mix Chamber

Clearwell #1

Treated Water Flow Control Facility

# *Twin Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant*

## *Process Train*



# Choosing an Alternative Procurement Method

## ► Why Design-Build-Operate over Design-Bid-Build?

- Primary reason: Schedule
- Secondary reason: Water Authority Engineering and O&M Experience is in Conveyance Facilities not Treatment



## ► Benefits:

- Integration of designer/contractor/operator
- Facilitates Use of Industry Expertise
- Cost and Schedule Savings



# *Use of Knowledgeable Advisors*

- ▶ Owners Representative
  - DBO Solicitation and Award
  - Conceptual Designs and support
  - Management of DBO Contract
- ▶ Board of Senior Consultants
  - Experienced public owners
  - Industry experts
  - DBO procurement experts
- ▶ DBO attorney



# *Project Timeline*

- ▶ RFQs June –Aug 2004
- ▶ SOQs Aug – Sep 2004
- ▶ Shortlist Oct 2004
- ▶ RFPs Dec 2004 – May 2005
- ▶ Initial Submittal Feb 2005



# *Project Timeline Cont'd*

- ▶ Proposals May 2005
- ▶ Negotiations June – Aug 2005
- ▶ BAFO Aug 2005
- ▶ Board Award Sep 2005
- ▶ Execute Contract/Design Oct 2005



# *Project Timeline Cont'd*

- ▶ Construction begins Feb 2006
- ▶ Design Complete Aug 2006
- ▶ Substantial Comp. April 2008
- ▶ Acceptance Test June 2008
- ▶ Operations Period begins June 2008



# Risks Transferred

- Construction and Operating Cost Overruns
- Timely Project Completion
- Capital Maintenance, Repair and Replacement
- Labor Supply, Costs and Relations
- Water quality
- Cost of chemicals
- Variation in water sales



# Risks Retained

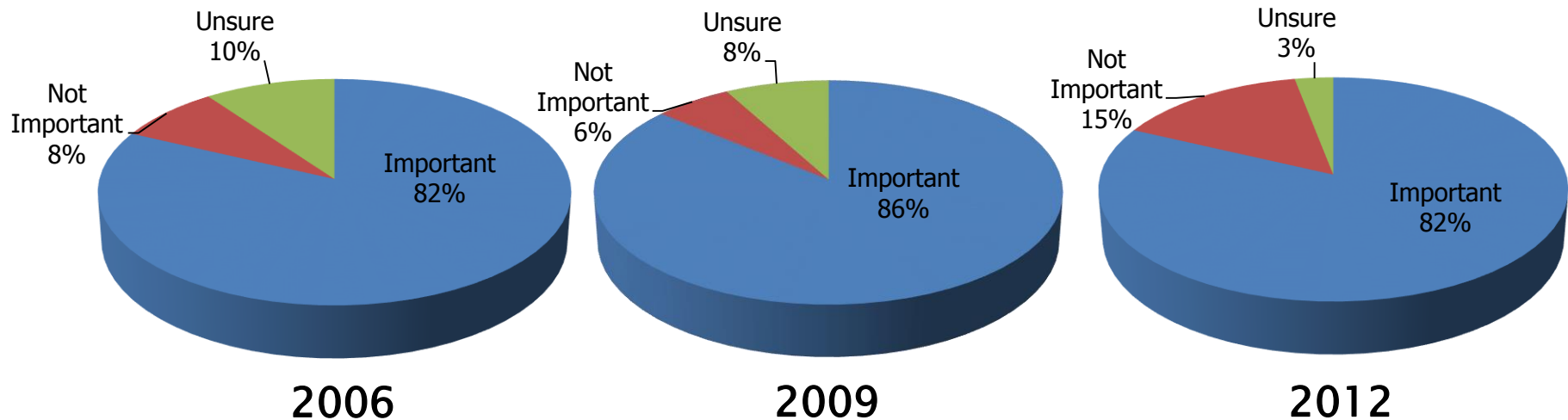
- EIR and Securing land
- Differing Site Conditions
- Raw water characteristics
- Changes in Law or Regulatory changes
- Power Consumption (Shared)





# Questions?

# Consistently Strong Public Support (Water Authority Public Opinion Polls)



**Importance of Ocean Desalination to  
San Diego County's Water Supply Reliability**

