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Draft EIR scheduled to release May 13 – Don't miss Joint Study Session May 7

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City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District **Regional Seawater Desalination Project**

Monthly Project Update & Related News

May 2013

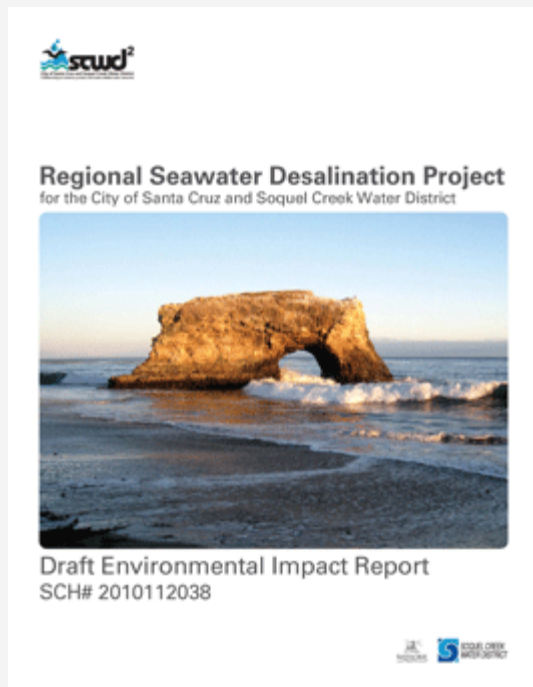
Special Joint Study Session on the Draft EIR - Tuesday, May 7

The City of Santa Cruz (City) and Soquel Creek Water District (District) will hold a special joint study session Tuesday, May 7 at 7PM at the City Council Chambers to receive information on the **scwd²** Regional Seawater Desalination Project Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Presentations will include:

- **'Water Shortage Challenges facing the City and District'** presented by Taj Dufour (Interim General Manager, Soquel Creek Water District) and Bill Kocher (Water Director, City of Santa Cruz) - An update that addresses shortages during drought conditions, reduction to existing surface water withdrawals to protect fish and other threatened/endangered species, and protection of the groundwater basin from seawater intrusion.
- **'Proposed scwd² Regional Seawater Desalination Project'** presented by Heidi Luckenbach (**scwd²** Desalination Program Coordinator, City of Santa Cruz) - An overview of the proposed project including the components, how operations would be shared by the two agencies, and environmental design features that address community concerns
- **'The EIR and How to Participate'** presented by Ann Sansevero (Project Manager, URS Corporation) - A general overview of how the document is laid out, the review period, and how the community can participate (environmental findings will not be discussed at this meeting).
- **'What about EIR Certification and the Vote?'** presented by Jim Moose (Senior Partner, Remy Moose Manley LLP) - An overview of how the EIR process, certification, and formation of a project are prerequisites to a formal vote on the

construction of the desalination plant for City of Santa Cruz residents. Also, what options are Soquel Creek Water District considering for their customers to weigh-in on the project.

This meeting is informational only and no action will be taken. For more information, click [here](#).



Draft EIR and Community Guide scheduled to be released May 13

The draft environmental impact report (DEIR) is scheduled to be released on Monday, May 13 and will be followed by a 60-day review period that includes the opportunity for the public and involved agencies and other stakeholders to provide written and oral comments on the document.

A Community Guide been also been created which is a 35-page handbook to the DEIR and is intended to provide a summary of the proposed project and key elements of the environmental analysis provided in the Draft EIR, including environmental design

features, mitigation measures, and feasible alternatives.

More information will be emailed in a subsequent email update and on the project website: <http://www.scwd2desal.org>

Summertime Curtailment in effect: May-October

The City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District have both initiated summertime cutbacks from May through October. The City has declared a Stage 1 water alert asking customers to reduce water use by five percent. The District called for 15% reduction under its Stage 2 water shortage warning as a result of below-normal rainfall conditions for the past two years. For more information on

New Informational Handouts Now Available

We were very fortunate to have a lot of people stop by our booth at 'Earth Day Santa Cruz' last month. Handouts that were passed out at the event are now available at the Soquel Creek Water District and Santa Cruz Water Department Offices as well as on-line. To view these:

[Project Overview](#)

the specifics for each agencies' water restrictions, visit:

- [City of Santa Cruz:](#)
- [Soquel Creek Water District](#)

[Overview of the Environmental Process](#)
[Tri-Fold Informational Fact Sheet](#)



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