

City of Santa Cruz Water Department and Soquel Creek Water District scwd² Desalination Program

Monthly Project Update – December 2010

Public Scoping Meetings to be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010

The formal initiation of the environmental review phase for the City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District (**scwd**²) Regional Seawater Desalination Project began on November 15, 2010 with the release of the Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (<u>NOP/IS</u>). The agencies will be holding two EIR scoping meetings on December 8, 2010:

First Congregational Church, 900 High Street, Santa Cruz: 12:00 – 2:30 PM New Brighton Middle School, 250 Washburn Avenue, Capitola: 6:30 – 9:00 PM During the scoping comment period (November 15, 2010 - January 10, 2011) the public may provide input on the environmental topics, potential effects, mitigation measures, and range of alternatives to be analyzed in the project EIR.

Each meeting will include an open house and presentation, followed by an oral public comment period. Comments can also be submitted in writing through January 10. Click here to access an on-line comment sheet. The same information will be presented at each meeting.

Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for special accommodations or translation services should be directed to staff at 831-475-8500 for Spanish no later than five days before the meeting. Please contact Melanie Mow Schumacher, **scwd**² Public Outreach Coordinator, at (831) 475-8501x153 or <u>melanies@soquelcreekwater.org</u> with any questions about this meeting or the public input process. For more information, visit the project website at www.scwd2desal.org.

Scoping comments may be submitted orally at the public scoping meetings or in writing by mail or email anytime between November 15, 2010 and January 10, 2011. Please submit comments on the proposed project to:

Heidi Luckenbach
scwd² Desalination Program Coordinator
City of Santa Cruz, Water Department
212 Locust Street, Suite C
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Email: hluckenbach@cityofsantacruz.com
For your convenience, you may also use the .pdf form available on our website
(click here)

Next Community Informational Meeting on "Understanding Energy Use related to Desalination" scheduled for February 9, 2011

The fifth in a series of **scwd**² Community Informational Meetings will focus on energy use related to desalination. Come to this community meeting to learn:

- Why water is a critical issue and how supply shortfalls affect the City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District
- How much energy is needed to produce our current water supplies? How much energy is needed to produce desalinated water?
- What are some of the ways seawater desalination has become more energy efficient?
- What is the increase in household energy use due to desalination as a supplemental water supply?
- How are the agencies evaluating greenhouse gases (GHGs)? Will the proposed plant be carbon neutral?

Presentations will be given by Heidi Luckenbach (scwd² Desalination Program Coordinator, City of Santa Cruz), John MacHarg (Managing Director-CEO, Affordable Desalination Collaboration), Alan Zelenka (Energy Services Leader, Kennedy/Jenks Consultant), and Todd Reynolds (Senior Engineer, Kennedy/Jenks Consultant). A question and answer session will follow the presentations.

Save the date! This meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at Live Oak School (1916 Capitola Road, Santa Cruz) from 6:30 -8:30 PM.

Video footage from "Understanding Marine Issues related to Desalination and the Environmental Review Process" meeting now available

Community TV of Santa Cruz County recently filmed the November 10th Community Informational Meeting. If you were unable to attend, this program is scheduled to play on Comcast 25/Charter 71 several times in December. For the schedule, click here.

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