Saturday, May 23, 2015

RESPONSE TO MONTEREY PENINSULAR WATER PROJECT

We are being had CalAM bought the election and now is trying to provide the most expensive alternative (I'm sure they get overhead and profit for the engineering, equipment and installation and especially operation)

I have designed and built desalination and I recognize the pit falls:

I. The system requires expensive membranes and associated equipment such as very high horsepower pumps (over 1,000 HP) to operate at over 1,000 psi.
II. The operating cost and environmental impact of using these high horsepower pumps is astronomical electrical costs and the huge amount of carbon released at the power plant to generate the electricity.
III. The maintenance will be very high between the high operating pressures that shorten the life of all components and the corrosion from the salt water.
IV. The environmental impact of discharging the effluent high in salt content and the impact in the surrounding waters.
V. The membranes will have a short life (a year, 2 at the best) and are extremely expensive.

A much more economical solution is to use the effluent from the WWTP and purify the water with a traditional reverse osmosis membranes the advantages:

I. The capital cost will be less then 25% of the desalination approach.
II. The electrical cost will be less then 15% of the desalination approach.
III. The maintenance will be reduced by more the 75% no corrosive salt water and much lower operating pressure then the desalination approach.
IV. The environmental impact is positive the effluent from the WWTP will go to the reverse osmosis plant the effluent from the reverse osmosis plant can be further treated before discharge.
V. The membrane life will be considerably longer.

Pleas look out for the consumer and not CalAM's greed.

Thank You

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