

New Mexico Positioned to be a Leader in Desalination

New Mexico is a recognized leader in water resources management and has ample water supplies to provide for our citizens well into the future. Fresh water aquifers and surface water supplies provide the majority of the water needed to meet agricultural, municipal, and industrial demands in the State. New Mexico also has significant brackish ground water resources that are easily accessible and treated. In fact, New Mexico has some of the most extensive brackish ground water resources in the United States.

With available fresh water resources and brackish ground water supplies, New Mexico is positioned to provide water to meet a variety of current and emerging demands to support economic development opportunities well into the future, while other surrounding states are struggling to meet their water needs. Whether treating brackish ground water or reusing municipal effluent for drinking water purposes, New Mexico has the ability to be at the forefront of desalination innovation and implementation. Many regional municipalities, including Albuquerque, are planning to integrate waste water effluent reuse and desalination of brackish water to supplement existing water supplies.

As stress on fresh water availability and reliability continues to grow in the Southwest, now is the time for New Mexico to utilize the unique technical and research capabilities at our universities and national laboratories, the premier U.S. brackish water treatment, testing and evaluation facility in Alamogordo, and energy and industrial resources to launch a new initiative around desalination to supplement emerging agricultural, municipal, and industrial water demands. A focused public-private partnership effort between state and federal agencies and industry on the research and demonstration of water treatment technologies to accelerate utilization of non-traditional water resources, such as brackish water, municipal and industrial water, and produced water, would stimulate both near-term and long-term economic development and growth in New Mexico.

NEW MEXICO DESALINATION ASSOCIATION

The New Mexico Desalination Association is a 501-C6 non-profit corporation established to promote and assist the desalination industry in New Mexico and the Southwest by developing professional and stakeholder knowledge of current and emerging desalination approaches, technologies, and applications. The goal of the New Mexico Desalination Association is to unite and educate stakeholders on desalination's potential in New Mexico, and on creating new water supplies through desalination of non-traditional brackish water resources that will support long-term economic growth, while protecting the environment and maintaining the social and cultural traditions of New Mexico.

This document is intended to provide an understanding of current trends in water resource development in the U.S. and the Southwest and the expanding role of non-traditional water resources and desalination technologies to help supplement current water supplies to meet growing water demands for agricultural, municipal, and industrial needs.

For additional information on desalination technology research and development, and applications in New Mexico and the Southwest, please contact the:

New Mexico Desalination Association
c/o Brian Burnett
7500 Jefferson NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109
