

# Chino Desalters



*A local, secure water source is a top priority for our region. Our regional partnership for the Chino Desalters showcases the regions commitment to water supply reliability through technology and by providing locally produced, high-quality drinking water in the region.*



## Fast Facts

- Once expanded in 2017, the Chino Desalters will provide another local, reliable source for the region.
- Desalted water is a local, secure water supply, reducing our reliance on water from far-off sources, like the Colorado River or Northern California.
- Water is treated through a process called reverse osmosis, which takes out salt and other matter to create clean, local drinking water.

A local, secure water source is a top priority for our region because it reduces our reliance on expensive, imported water from far-off sources like the Colorado River or Northern California.

The expansion of the Chino Desalter will more than double water production capacity at the facility in Jurupa Valley from 10 million gallons per day (MGD) to 20.5 MGD when it is completed in early 2017.

The Chino Desalter is a regional partnership with the agencies that are beneficiaries of the water including Western Municipal Water District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Jurupa Community Services District, the cities of Ontario, Norco, Chino and Chino Hills, and the Santa Ana River Water Company.



*Chino Desalters*

## How does desalting groundwater work?

Like water from the ocean, groundwater contains salts and other matter that must be taken out before we can drink it. Groundwater is pumped out of the aquifer, a layer of rock and sediment deep under the ground, and treated at the Chino Desalters through a process called reverse osmosis, which forces water across a membrane at high pressure. The membrane traps salt and other impurities and allows only clean water to come through, allowing us to drink the water.



Regional customers will have a local, reliable water supply thanks to the expansion of the Chino Desalter.

## How is the desalter being expanded?

Several major capital projects are needed to expand the production capacity at the Chino Desalter, including expanding raw water well fields, adding additional drinking water delivery facilities, and constructing a brine concentrate reduction facility. The expansion will also add hydraulic control of the Chino Groundwater Basin to protect downstream water quality in Orange County.

## What are the benefits?

By providing locally sourced drinking water, our region reduces its reliance on imported, expensive water from far-off places. Customers can expect a local and reliable water supply. In addition, groundwater quality improves because pumping and treating more groundwater accelerates restoration of local water basin quality.

Groundwater can also be stored underground and used during drier times or emergency situations.

The clean water is environmentally friendly as well. Increased groundwater pumping in localized areas will significantly reduce the flow of low-quality groundwater into the Santa Ana River.



## Project Cost

The expansion of the Chino Desalter is \$144 million, of which \$84 million has been funded by grants and federal appropriations.



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