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November 21, 2024

Dear Texas Desal Partner,

We are at a unique time in the history of desalination in Texas. While we have a long history of desalination Texas it has never been at the forefront of the water discussion, more of an afterthought except for those communities that have come to depend on it.

With the passage of SB 28 and the adjoining constitutional amendment, New Water in general and desalination in particular has become the center of attention. The upcoming legislative session has the potential to be an historic desalination session. With the goal of substantial long term state funding for desalination, we may finally become part of the mainstream water supply sources for the people of Texas.

An issue that has begun to surface, and honestly has always been a question that must be answered, is how an ocean intake and discharge structure will impact the local environment. It is time for Texas Desal to attempt to address those questions.

We have approached Tom Pankratz and Tim Hogan (TWB Environmental Research and Consulting, Inc.) to undertake this effort. Their proposed paper entitled, "A Review of Seawater Desalination Intake and Discharge Environmental Impacts and Best Practices" will address concerns and answer questions regarding these important issues now and in the future.

This project is beyond the current Texas Desal budget so we must ask our corporate partners to help us in funding this important project.

Our budget for the effort is \$16,000.

We understand it is the end of the year and budgets for next year are already under consideration. The completion of this project can and will impact what happens regarding potential funding in this upcoming legislative session. We are offering some recommended levels of support. (Please see attached) We can also provide additional information regarding the proposal from our research team.

Please do all you can to see this project through to completion.

Sincerely,

Bill Norris, Texas Desalination Association President