# **Case Study: Chino II Concentrate Reduction Facility**





# The Brine Challenge In Southern California



# The Chino II Brine Reduction Facility Was the Product of Multiple Drivers

# **Project Drivers**

# Reduce Discharge To Brine Line

- Allow for Expansion of Chino II Desalter
- Utilize Capital Project Specific Grant Funding

# Resource Recovery and Sustainability

- Recover Additional Potable Water from Wellfield
- Produce Residuals That Have Beneficial Reuse (Economic and Environmental)
- Reduce Scaling Potential In Brine Line

### The Concentrate Reduction Facility (CRF) Provided an Option to Purchasing Additional Brine Line Capacity



Expanded facility brine volume of 2.68-mgd exceeded current brine line capacity of 1.62-mgd.

# The CRF Allows Chino II To Meet Disposal Goals And Recover Potable Water



A large portion of solid residuals have beneficial use value.



# Chemical softening removes scaling precursors in the primary RO concentrate

- Secondary RO recovery of 66% (and higher) achieved through:
  - Calcium reduction
  - Magnesium reduction
  - Alkalinity reduction
  - Silica reduction



# **Facility Facts and Features**

- Capacity:
  - Influent: Up to 2.47 mgd of primary RO concentrate
  - RO Permeate: >1.73 mgd
  - Brine and IX Waste: < 0.94-mgd</li>
- Secondary RO Recovery: 66-85 Percent
- Overall Facility Recovery: >94 Percent
- Solid Residual Disposal:
  - Pellets: Sold to local specialty minerals distributer
  - Dewatered solids: Landfill with option for composting
- Product Water Use: Potable



#### **Facility in Operation Since May 2017**

### Lessons Learned – General First time combination of established processes = Unknowns



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# Lessons Learned – General Active Operator Engagement Required



"Softening on Steroids"



**Upsets Happen Fast!** 



High Rate Processes Due to Site Constraints

### **Lessons Learned – Process**

Balancing two different softening processes requires operational finesse.



### **Lessons Learned – Process**

Extreme Hardness = Uncharted Territory for Pellet Reactors

 Removal rate per area of reactor is 10X higher typical applications

New paradigm for seed feed and pellet blowdown developed



### **Lessons Learned – Process**

Sludge Management

- Full scale solids much thicker than solids produced during piloting (30+% versus 6-10%)
- Solids Accumulation in Waste Washwater Basin
- Site constraints and no sewer connection make off spec water events hard to handle

#### Solutions

- Keep it moving
- Solids management plan developed for shutdowns
- Plan to manage carryover from centrifuge centrate



### Lessons Learned – Equipment

Recessed impellor pumps sheer solids on recirculation system

Better check valves needed on injection lances



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More reliable bed level detector

# **Despite Challenges, the CRF is a Success**

- Last 4 months has seen the best performance since commissioning
- A plan is in place to address some of the lessons learned issues
- Water production costs have been within range for project feasibility

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