



LONG BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT  
The Standard in Water Conservation &  
Environmental Stewardship

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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# **UCLA to Assist National Seawater Desalination Research Effort**

LONG BEACH, CA – Today, the Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners approved an agreement with the Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), for technical work associated with the Long Beach Seawater Desalination Research and Development Facility. The Long Beach Desalination Project, funded in part by the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, is the largest seawater desalination research and development effort in the country.

The agreement outlines UCLA's primary involvement in bench-scale membrane evaluations, theoretical model development, data modeling, and optimization studies to increase understanding of potential cost savings and water quality benefits of the various desalination system configurations that are being evaluated at the Long Beach facility.

We are excited to have an opportunity to have UCLA work on specific research issues associated with our seawater desalination program, stated Dr. Robert Cheng, Assistant General Manager for Operations with the Long Beach Water Department. "We think that this will be a win-win relationship, one that allows Long Beach to make use of UCLA's state-of-the-art academic research facilities to answer specific questions that we may not have the resources to address, while exposing UCLA's students and staff to real-world applied research issues, specifically at a state-of-the-art seawater desalination facility."

The Long Beach Seawater Desalination Project involves operation of a 300,000 gpd, research and development facility and construction of an Under Ocean Floor Intake and Discharge Demonstration System. The Project is focused on demonstrating cost effective and environmentally responsive seawater desalination.

The Long Beach Water Department is an urban, southern California water supply agency and the standard in water conservation and environmental stewardship.

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