

Papers for the "Request for Information (RFI) for Salton Sea Water Importation Projects" by California Natural Resource Agency

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

OVERVIEW OF THE SALTON SEA SITUATION (I)

- The Salton Sea is California's largest lake and is presently 50 % saltier than the Ocean. The Salton Sea is a "terminal lake," meaning that it has no outlets. Water flows into it from several limited sources but the only way water leaves the sea is by evaporation.
- The lake is shrinking exposing the lake bed and precipitating higher salinity levels and environmental issues as well as a serious threat to its multi- billion-dollar tourist trade.
- Under the terms of the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) the lakes decline is set to accelerate starting in 2018. About the 1/3 of inflow water from the canal will be diverted to San Diego and Coachella Valley.
- Runoff water from nearby agricultural fields which contains fertilizers, pesticides and other pollutants from Mexicali contaminate Salton Sea and make it an undesirable tourist destination especially for beach goers.



OVERVIEW OF THE SALTON SEA SITUATION (II)

- The lake is 35 miles long, 15 miles wide, and is located south of Palm Springs in a basin 230 feet below sea level.
- The Earth's crust at the south end of the Salton Sea is relatively thin. Temperature in the Salton Sea Geothermal Field can reach 680 °F (360 °C) less than a mile below the surface.
- There have been many complains and studies about consequences for our community if a solution for the Salton Sea is not found.
- There have been several proposals involving importing seawater, but they failed to address the salinity balance and feasibility of the project. It was wishful conventional thinking – implying canals, tunnels, pipelines without addressing the practicality of its implementation and how to pay for it.
- This proposal is quite different it incorporates in final comprehensive design, several patented technologies – that have not been accessible to the authors of previous proposals.



OBJECTIVES OF THE ENCLOSED PROPOSAL FOR RESTORATION OF THE SALTON SEA

- **1.** Raising and stabilizing the lake's waterline level;
- 2. Preventing further pollution of the lake and treating farmland's runoff waters with natural and plant-based filtration systems mangrove tree and alike;
- 3. Providing wildlife sanctuary;
- 4. Equalizing salinity of the salty terminal lake (Salton Sea) water with salinity of the Ocean.
- 5. Providing conditions for tourism and making Salton Sea a renewed recreational destination;
- 6. Harnessing prevalent geothermal source of the Salton Sea Geothermal Field (SSGF) for generation of electricity; and as a byproducts
- 7. Production of potable water and lithium;



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This proposal has an architectural element which harmoniously incorporates several patented technologies in a functional self-sustaining organism.

- Phase I Connecting the Salton Sea with the Ocean (presented are 5 Routs corridors) with a pipeline 48" (5 pipelines on uphill route and 1 pipeline on downhill route);
- Phase II Building two main dikes One in northern and one in southern part of the Salton Sea and several secondary dikes for forming ponds (wetland) for treatment of farmland's runoff waters.
- > Phase III Building one power plant using (SCI-GHE) system at one of selected sector;
- Phase IV Building several more power plants using (SCI-GHE) system one in three selected sector; and
- Phase V Continued buildup of additional power plants using (SCI-GHE) system at each selected sector;



DESALINIZATION OF THE SALTON SEA (I):

- The desalinization of the Salton Sea and salt balance are the primary issues of this proposal.
- In order to compensate for evaporation of about 1.25 million acres/feet per year it has to be inflow at least 1.25 million acres/feet per year.
- By separating the lake into three sections with two main dikes we can treat existing inflow and reuse it for farmland, which otherwise would be useless for farmland as it merge with the salty water of the lake.
- By separating farmland's runoff waters from the central part of the lake, we can fill the central part of the lake with seawater and gradually reduce salinity by extracting higher salinity water from bottom of the lake.
- High salinity water (brine) has higher density and has tendency to accumulate at the lowest point(s) at the bottom of the lake where we can access it, pump it up and used in a new design of geothermal power plants for generation of electricity, and as byproducts produce potable water and lithium.



DISALINIZATION OF THE SALTON SEA (II):

- High salinity water (brine) can be use for forming new geothermal reservoirs in the areas where new geothermal power plants (Scientific Geothermal Technology) are proposed for better conduction of the heat from hot rocks to first heat exchanger.
- > Optionally, high salinity brine can be use for filing existing geothermal reservoirs;
- As an option We could pump out high salinity water from bottom of the lake with pipeline 24" diameter and disperse it into vast Ocean: A few miles offshore near Carlsbad there is a trench called "Carlsbad Canyon" through which high salinity water would slide slowly into depth of the Ocean and find its way to join existing currents in the vast ocean without negative effect on marine life.
- Optionally, we can oxygenate brine on the way to the "Carlsbad Canyon" by injecting air into pipeline in several locations, by compressors.
- Hyper saline water brine is in sync with natural occurrence in oceans and together with temperature difference the main engine in currents circulation in Oceans - called "deep ocean currents" or thermohaline circulation.



Dimensions of the Salton Sea - Google map





Geothermal Map – Salton Sea area - Temperatures at dept of 3.5 km





Route # 1 – Map - Importing seawater from the Ocean to the Salton Sea



Route # 1

- Importing seawater from the Gulf of California – corridor: San Felipe through Mexicali, Mexico, to the Salton Sea;
- Elevation to overcome is 35' (10 m);
- Pipeline distance is about 150 mile;
- Cost estimate for pipeline: <u>\$1.7 B;</u>
- Cost estimates for TOS: <u>\$184.8 M;</u>
- Generated hydro power: 27.3 MWh;
- Generated solar power: 1,058 MWh;
- Revenue from TOS: \$114,349,320;
- Revenue from hydro: \$13,759,200;
- Revenue total: \$128,108,520;
- This route also deals with the "Other Country Issues" – treaty – purchase of seawater – risk involved, etc.



Route # 1 – Plain view



<u>Route # 1</u>

- Route #1 corridor: Salton Sea
 San Felipe (Gulf of California);
- The Route # 1 has distance of about 150 miles with preferred topography which has an advantage in pipeline cost.
- Assumption \$600 per linear foot. One mile 5,280 ' x \$600 = \$3,168,000; => \$3,168,000 x 450 miles relatively flat terrain (50 miles x 5 pipelines + 50 miles x 3 pipelines + 50 miles 1 pipeline) = \$1,425,600,000;
- The final cost might increase 20% to about \$1.7 billion.
- If implemented a single outflow pipeline 24" the final cost might increase 30%.



Route #1 – Cross-sectional view



- Terrain of the Route #1 (corridor: Salton Sea - Gulf of California) is suitable and would be the least expensive option.
- There is the "Other Country Issue";
- Even if treaty with Mexico are reached and route established, I would recommend implementation of one of the USA corridor too.
- It would reduce dependency and risk associated with the "other countries issues".
- It would be relatively small investment in comparison to the revenue and benefits that whole project would generate in the future.



Plain view of a schematic diagram of an alternative pipeline route connecting Salton Sea with Gulf of California, Mexico



FIG. 86.

- Redirection of the New River 318 and Alamo River 328 on Mexican side of the border with two gates 392 and 393 to flow towards Laguna Salada 394;
- Requires relatively inexpensive earth work (a few miles cut) 397 west of Mexicali, Mexico.;
- Optional route **396** bypassing Laguna Salada **394** on the way to the Ocean;
- the amount of water for the farmland from All-American Canal can be controlled with valves 536 to be used only as necessary with sprinkler system preventing formation of the runoffs water from farmlands entering the Salton Sea;
- This option requires treaty with Mexico to secure long-term interest of both countries.



Alternative pipeline system associated with route connecting Salton Sea with Gulf of California, Mexico



FIG. 87

- System designed for more efficient water conservation to accommodate water restriction and supply to southern section 206 – the wildlife sanctuary;
- The amount of water for the farmland from All-American Canal can be controlled with valves 536 to be used only as necessary with sprinkler system preventing formation of the runoffs water from farmlands entering the Salton Sea;
- Three main pipelines; eastern branch 531; central branch 532; and western branch 533; and secondary pipelines 534 extending from each of three main branches;
- Control valves 536 on beginning and control valves 537 on their ends.





- The southern section of the lake 206 (wild life sanctuary) with an area 415 surrounded with a levy (dike) - two lain road 416, to form dry land 415 and secure development of a conventional geothermal power plant 427 at the area of known geothermal reservoir;
- If needed, the waste material from power plant 300 can be diluted with water from pipelines 332, 335 or 337 before being injected into geothermal reservoirs.
- Three main pipelines 531, 532 and 533 with control valves 537 for providing and circulating water in the southern section of the lake 206 (the wild life sanctuary).
- There is a restaurant on the pier;
- There are islands for birds 147;



Plan view of a typical dike-pier intersection



FIG. 57

> The main dikes (two lane roads) divides lake into three sections preventing pollution of the central section of the lake providing conditions for **tourism**;

- Secondary dikes forms ponds for collecting and treating farmland's runoff water and providing wildlife sanctuary – wetland;
- Ponds are dig in "V" shape to provide slope and deep points for segregation of higher density water which is selectively pumped out and used in the power plants;
- There is a restaurant on the pier and parking places for visitors;
- There is airport for amphibian airplans;



Cross-sectional view 89'-89" taken near a typical dike-pier intersection



- The main dikes (two lane roads) divides lake into three sections – preventing pollution of the central section of the lake and providing conditions for tourism;
- Wetlands are planted with mangrove trees or alike for natural filtration of water;
- Ponds are dig in "V" shape to provide slope and deep points for segregation of higher density water which is pumped out and used in the power plants;
- The injection well 426 can be used for depositing waste material from power plant 300 with high salinity water through pipeline 428 into depleting geothermal reservoir.
- There is a restaurant on the pier;



Enlarged northern part of the Salton Sea - wildlife sanctuary



FIG. 90

- The main dikes (two lane roads) divides lake into three sections – preventing pollution of the central section of the lake and providing conditions for tourism;
- Pipelines 538 and 539 distributing water to secondary pipelines 534 using sprinkler system for final distribution of water to farmland.
- The amount of water for the farmland can be controlled with valves 536 and 537 to be used only as necessary;
- There is a restaurant on the pier;
- Possible location of a Hotel Resort 540 with a section in the Salton Sea with the tower 550 to be built on manmade island 560 which contain a mechanism for generation of waves for surfing;



Plain view of a typical Power Plant



- 300 Power Plant about 500 meters diameter;
 - ➤ 30 Wells;
- > 380 Power Units;
- > 200 Control Center;
- > 290 Processing Building;
- > 274 Potable water pond;
- > 210 Heat Exchange system;
- > 325 Railroad track;



Schematic cross-sectional view of a Power Unite



- A method for harnessing geothermal energy for generation of electricity by using complete closed loop heat exchange systems combined with on-board drilling apparatus.
- The first heat exchanger of the closed loop system is lowered at heat source and second heat exchanger is coupled into boiler / evaporator of the Power Unite.
- Salty water from the Salton Sea is injected into boiler / evaporator to the level "H".
- Salty water is heated by heat exchanger and steam is produced which enters pistons and generator, which generates electricity.
- The power unit has a condenser which is cooled with additional closed loop system.
- Geothermal fluid and/or saturated brine is circulated around first heat exchanger with an on-board in-line-pump to minimize heat flux.
- Drilling can continue as needed in search for hot rocks until equilibrium is reached.



Cross-sectional longitudinal view of the Secondary In-Line-Pump / Generator



- The In-Line-Pump / Generator is an electromotor cylindrical shape and is inserted as a repetitive segment in the pipeline.
- As a shaft of the rotor it has a hollow cylinder with continues spiral blades inside hollow cylinder / shaft.
- The Secondary In-Line-Pump / Generators are a subsequent segments in the "Split & Join" and "Delta" mini Power Plants having gradually more exposed continuous spiral blade providing smaller openings in the middle of the cylinder as speed of fluid gradually decreases.
- It yields a maximum flow rate with limited diameter.



<u>Cross-sectional frontal view of the Primary and Secondary In-Line-Pump /</u> <u>Generator</u>



FIG. 71



- In order to harness maximum energy from the fall, the Primary Generator at the bottom of the fall, have continuous spiral blades, inside the hollow shaft, less exposed with bigger openings in the middle of the cylinder / shaft.
- The subsequent segments the In-Line-Generators - in the section "C" (Delta Power Plant) have gradually more exposed continuous spiral blades with smaller openings in the middle of the cylinder / shaft as speed of fluid gradually decreases.



Schematic cross-sectional view of a Power Unite



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Cross-sectional view of a solar panel assembly



FIG. 100

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A Thermo Optical Solar (TOS) panel assembly 610 and its attachment system to the pipeline 400.



A side view of the solar panel assembly and its attachment system to the pipeline



FIG. 103

- A side view of the solar panel assembly 610 and its attachment system to the pipeline 400 and its lifting mechanism 612 in horizontal position;
- The condenser 660 consist of bended \geq metal pipeline 662 and connectors 627 which connect closed loop line of the thermo optical solar system 567 and 700;



A perspective view of a pipeline with solar panel assemblies attached to the pipeline in combination with a line of alternative solar system aside pipeline



FIG. 106

Perspective view of a pipeline with solar panel assemblies 610 attached to the pipeline in combination with a line of an alternative "thermo optical solar system" 700 aside pipeline.



- Route #1 --- Corridor: San Felipe Mexicali, Mexico, Salton Sea.
- Elevation to overcome is 35 ' (10 m);
- Pipeline distance is about 150 miles;
- Cost estimate for pipeline: <u>\$1.7 billion;</u>
- Cost estimate for TOS: <u>\$184.8 million;</u>
- Route #1 would generate hydropower: <u>27.3 MWh</u>;
- The Thermo Optical Solar System installed on pipeline would generate <u>1,058.79 MWh;</u>
- Revenue generated from the Thermo Optical Solar (TOS) System installed on pipeline Route #1 would be at least <u>\$114,349,320</u> per year;
- Revenue generated from the "Delta" hydro power plant would be <u>\$13,759,200</u> per year;
- Revenue total: \$128,108,520 per year;



- Route #2 Corridor: Oceanside Temecula San Jacinto (existing tunnel) Cabazon - Salton Sea;
- Elevation to overcome is 1,600' (488 m);
 2 cascades each with 279 m drop and 6uphill pumping stations;
- Pipeline distance is about 160 miles;
- Cost estimate for pipeline: <u>\$3.32 billion;</u>
- Cost estimate for TOS: <u>\$200 million;</u>
- Energy needed for operation of the pipeline: 134.5 MWh;
- The Thermo Optical Solar System installed on pipeline would generate <u>1,058.79 MWh;</u>
- Remaining 924.30 MWh can be sold to the grid;
- Revenue generated from the Thermo Optical Solar (TOS) System installed on pipeline Route #2 would be at least <u>\$99,824,400</u> per year;



Route #3 Corridor: Oceanside - Temecula - San Jacinto - Beaumont – Salton Sea.

- Elevation to overcome: 2,700' (823 m).
 3 cascades each with 297 m drop and 9 uphill pumping stations;
- Pipeline distance: about 170 miles;
- Cost estimate for pipeline: <u>\$3.5 billion;</u>
- Cost estimate for TOS: <u>\$209.44 million</u>
- Energy needed for operation of the pipeline: <u>275.7 MWh;</u>
- The Thermo Optical Solar System(TOS) installed on the Route #3 pipeline can generate <u>1,124.97 MWh</u>;
- Remaining 849.27 MWh can be sold to the grid;
- Revenue generated from the Thermo Optical Solar (TOS) System installed on pipeline Route #3 would be at least \$91,721,160 per year;



- **Route #4** Corridor: Oceanside Temecula Borrego Springs –.Salton Sea.
- Elevation to overcome is 3,600^(1,097 m);
 4 cascades each with 292 m drop and 11 uphill pumping stations;
- Pipeline distance: about 100 miles;
- Cost estimate for pipeline: <u>\$2.22 billion;</u>
- Cost estimate for TOS: <u>\$123,200,000 million;</u>
- Energy needed for operation of the pipeline: <u>380 MWh</u>;
- The Thermo Optical Solar System installed on route #4 pipeline can generate 661,7 MWh;
- Remaining 281.7 MWh can be sold to the grid;
- Revenue generated from the Thermo Optical Solar (TOS) System installed on pipeline Route #4 would be at least \$30,423,600 per year.



- **Route #5** Corridor: Long Beach Whitewater Springs Salton Sea.
- Elevation to overcome: 2,700⁽ (823 m);
 3 cascades each with 297 m drop and 9 uphill pumping stations;
- Pipeline distance: about 200 miles;
- Cost estimate for pipeline: <u>\$4.118 billion;</u>
- Cost estimate for TOS: <u>\$246,400,000 million;</u>
- Energy needed for operation of the pipeline: <u>275.7 MWh;</u>
- The Thermo Optical Solar System installed on route #5 pipeline can generate1,323.49 MWh;
- Remaining 1,047.80 MWh can be sold to the grid;
- Revenue generated from the Thermo Optical Solar (TOS) System installed on pipeline Route #5 would be at least \$113,162,400 per year

