



Legislative Update

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TexasDesal's Mission Statement

...to encourage better use of Texas' water resources through the development of brackish, marine and other saline waters.

Successes...so far

- TCEQ RO/NF Membrane System Design Rules
- HB 30 – Brackish groundwater production studies
- SB 1430 – Expedited TCEQ process to amend surface water rights for those using seawater desalination
- Educational material for legislators
- Collaboration with Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

Next Legislative Session

- Surface-/Ground-water Interaction
- Groundwater Reform
- Desalination Residuals
- 15-Mile Exclusion for Brackish Groundwater Production
- Collaboration with Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

Surface-/Ground-water Interactions

- House hearings this year
- Take-Away: Interaction needs study. Models need to be updated.


Groundwater Reform

- Senate Bill 1392 (2017) will be re-introduced in 2019 by Sen. Perry
- Overhaul of regulatory system for groundwater

Beneficial Use of Desalination Residuals

- House Bill 2654 (2007)
- Allows desalination concentrate to be used for enhanced oil recovery.
- Texas Desal will propose to add “hydraulic fracturing” to the list of injection fluids for enhanced oil recovery.

15-Mile Exclusion for Brackish Groundwater Production

- After HB 30 studies, TWDB applied a 15-mile radius around oil and gas wells to determine Brackish GW Production Zones
 - A study needs to be done to justify the 15-mile radius
 - Texas Desal is looking at options to initiate study
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Collaboration with TAGD

- 2 Workshops
- Identified common legislative/regulatory interests
- Permitting approaches and challenges
- Next steps

How can you get involved?

- Join the Texas Desalination Association
- Witness testimony during House and Senate hearings
- Call legislators
- E-mail Kyle (jkf1@texas.net) with:
 - Contact information
 - Area of expertise
 - Interest (call, witness, or both)

Questions?

