



The Recycle Plan (Booth 5) (/initiative/4WpA/the-recycle-plan-booth-5)

This is a plan to recycle 100% of all the waste water from both Santa Cruz and Watsonville and distributes it along the entire coastline of the County. It produces either drinking water or standard recycle. The drinking water requires the identical reverse osmosis technology as Desal, but with less energy. Distribution lines would be built on the railroad corridor, and the surface would be restored as a bike path. A six mile emergency water connection to Deep Water Desal is also provided. All secondary treated waste water pollution in the Bay would be eliminated.

Submitted by Bill Smallman

Comments

Doug Engfer 1m ago

NEUTRAL

Jean Brocklebank 2w, 6d ago

NEUTRAL

My concern is that this proposal is tied to the rail corridor and the funds for the County to purchase that corridor are tied to train use.

Bill Smallman 2w, 3d ago

Jean, I do not believe this is something to worry about since the County would be saving over 125 million on not building a parallel bike path and train, and instead get a bike path and a solution to water. Moreover, is anyone questioning the person(s) who are forcing this requirement of purchase? If the train is proved to be unsustainable, how can the State legally force the County to subsidize a loser business plan of a train? The State is far more concerned about water that and is about these poor transportation investments, and I believe the State Government can easily amend this legislative mistake.

Fred Martinez 2w, 6d ago

PRO

Best idea yet.

Bill Smallman 2w, 3d ago

Thanks Fred.

Jan Karwin 2w ago

This proposal is worthy of further research and evaluation by the panel of experts, however I believe reverse osmosis will soon become an obsolete technology and cheaper, more energy efficient processes will supplant it.

Bill Smallman 1w, 3d ago

The only thing I see on the horizon is better filter materials. Specifically a material called "Graphene" by Lockheed Company. There is something about it that you do not have to use higher pressure. But this is still reverse osmosis, and I do not see this becoming obsolete any time soon. Keep in mind, waste water has far less chemicals than saltwater to filter out, so it uses way less energy. The desal is continuously backwashing many more times and pumping the brine out to the ocean for disposal.

