



## NOTICE OF PREPARATION & PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE

**DATE:** August 31, 2015  
**TO:** Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties  
**LEAD AGENCY:** West Basin Municipal Water District  
**SUBJECT:** Notice of Preparation & Scoping Meeting Notice Environmental Impact Report for the **West Basin Ocean Water Desalination Project**

The West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) will be the Lead Agency for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Title 14 §§ 15082(a), 15103, and 15375).

**Project Summary:** The EIR will assess the potential environmental effects of implementing a proposed ocean water desalination facility of between 20 and 60 million gallons per day (MGD) of potable drinking water. The proposed location is the NRG El Segundo Generating Station (ESGS), although the EIR will evaluate other desalination plant site alternatives, including the AES Corporation (AES) Redondo Beach Generating Station (RBGS). Refer to Exhibit 1, *Local Vicinity Map*; Exhibit 2, *Project Study Area—El Segundo*; and Exhibit 3, *Alternative Project Study Area—Redondo Beach*. The EIR will evaluate a range of desalination capacities, intake/discharge alternatives, treatment processes, power supply options, and product water conveyance alignment alternatives, among other Project component options. Additional Project Description information is provided below and on West Basin’s website at [www.westbasin.org/DesalEIR](http://www.westbasin.org/DesalEIR).

The purpose of this Notice is: (1) to serve as the Notice of Preparation to potential Responsible Agencies, agencies involved in funding or approving the Project, and Trustee Agencies responsible for natural resources affected by the Project, pursuant to Section 15082 of the CEQA Guidelines; and (2) to advise and solicit comments and suggestions regarding the preparation of the EIR, environmental issues to be addressed in the EIR, and any related issues, from interested parties other than those noted above, including interested or affected members of the public. West Basin requests that any potential Responsible or Trustee Agency responding to this Notice do so in a manner consistent with CEQA Guidelines Section 15082(b).

All parties that have submitted their names and mailing addresses will be notified as part of the Project’s CEQA review process. If you wish to be placed on the mailing list or have any questions or need additional information, please contact the person identified below. A copy of the Expanded NOP is on West Basin’s website (<http://www.westbasin.org/Desal>) and is on file at West Basin Municipal Water District, located at the address provided below. Additional copies of the Expanded NOP have been provided to the City of El Segundo Planning Department (350 Main Street, El Segundo, California) and the City of El Segundo Public Library (111 West Mariposa Avenue, El Segundo, California). The Project Description, location, and potential environmental effects are provided in the attached materials.

**Public Scoping Meeting:** West Basin is holding a Public Scoping Meeting to provide an overview of the Project, summary of the environmental process and issues to be addressed in the EIR, and receive input



regarding environmental issues and the suggested scope and content of the EIR. The Public Scoping Meeting will be held, as indicated below:

**Date:** September 30, 2015  
**Time:** 6:00 PM (commencing promptly at 6:00 PM, ending no later than 8:00 PM)  
**Place: Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility**  
1935 South Hughes Way, El Segundo 90245  
(310) 414-0183

*Special Accommodations.* Should you require special accommodations at the Public Scoping Meeting, such as for the hearing impaired or an English translator, please contact West Basin no later than September 16<sup>th</sup> (see contact information below).

**45-Day NOP Review Period:** CEQA requires a 30-day public review period for an NOP. West Basin is providing 45 days to afford the public additional time to review the NOP and provide input to West Basin. In accordance with CEQA, should you have any comments, please provide a written response to this NOP within the **45-day NOP review period between August 31, 2015 and October 15, 2015**. Written comments must be received at the address indicated below no later than 5:00 PM on October 15, 2015.

**Ways to Comment:** Interested organizations or individuals may provide NOP comments the following ways:

- **Mail Comment** – to the address below.
- **Provide Written Comments at the NOP Scoping Meeting** – on September 30<sup>th</sup>, at the location above.
- **Comment through the West Basin website** – visit [www.westbasin.org/DesalEIR](http://www.westbasin.org/DesalEIR) to fill out the PDF comment form.

Please contact West Basin, as indicated below, if you have any questions regarding the method, content, or process for commenting. It is noted that the content and timeliness of your NOP comments may limit your ability to challenge the EIR. Please indicate a contact person in your response and send it to the following contact:

Desalination EIR  
Attn: Ms. Diane Gatzka  
Water Resources Engineer  
West Basin Municipal Water District  
17140 South Avalon Boulevard, Suite 210  
Carson, California 90746

**Additional Information:** Please visit West Basin’s website at [www.westbasin.org/DesalEIR](http://www.westbasin.org/DesalEIR) for additional Project information. If you have additional questions, or need assistance in understanding this NOP or how to participate in the Project’s CEQA process, please contact West Basin’s Desal Information Line at (310) 660-6232.

Signature:   
Eric Owens, P.E., Technical Resources Manager



ATTACHMENT TO THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
FOR THE

## WEST BASIN OCEAN WATER DESALINATION PROJECT

### WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT BACKGROUND

The West Basin Municipal Water District was formed in 1947 as an imported water wholesaler for the southwestern portion of Los Angeles County (also referred to as the “South Bay”). West Basin’s 185 square-mile service area is composed of 17 cities and several unincorporated areas. As a regional water wholesaler, West Basin purchases water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). MWD obtains water from Northern California (State Water Project) and the Colorado River (Colorado River Aqueduct). West Basin serves a population of mainly 1,000,000 persons within the Los Angeles coastal region and provides recycled water to over 300 sites. A five-member Board of Directors, each serving a geographic division of the service area, governs West Basin.

Since the early 1990’s, West Basin has acted to expand its water supply portfolio to include local water supply sources to supplement imported supply. Through its efforts in recycled water, conservation, education, groundwater recovery, and ocean water desalination research, West Basin continues to be a leader in water reliability by investing in a well-balanced water supply portfolio. West Basin has adopted the following plans, goals, and strategies:

- *Strategic Business Plan* (January 2008): Goal to decrease their service area’s dependence on imported water by 50 percent.
- *Water Reliability 2020 Program*: Goal to reduce their dependence on imported water brought to coastal Los Angeles from 66 percent to 33 percent, and adding a new supply to the region to further diversify their future water supplies – Ocean Water Desalination – by the year 2023.
- *West Basin’s 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)*: Goal to reduce overall imported water use by nearly one-half – from 63 percent to 38 percent, and to 35 percent by 2035; refer to UWMP Figure ES-1.

To further reduce their dependence on imported water, West Basin has taken a “stepwise approach” to integrating desalinated ocean water as a portion of their local water supply portfolio. This stepwise approach has included extensive pilot testing, demonstration testing of full-scale processes, conducting numerous technical studies, and development of a comprehensive desalination Program Master Plan. West Basin’s complete desalination history can be found at [www.westbasin.org/Desal](http://www.westbasin.org/Desal).

### West Basin Pilot Project

In 2002, supported by various institutions and other interested parties including water agencies and agricultural associations, West Basin initiated piloting efforts to desalinate ocean water through the installation of its Desalination Pilot Project at NRG’s ESGS. The Pilot Project included microfiltration and Reverse Osmosis (RO) filtration components, and processed approximately 40 gallons per minute (GPM) of ocean water. After five years of research and more than 35,000 water quality tests, West Basin



identified the optimal operating parameters for desalination and concluded that ocean water desalination could be a viable alternative water supply.

### **Ocean Water Desalination Demonstration Facility and Water Education Center**

The data collected at the Pilot Project was used in the development of the Ocean Water Desalination Demonstration Facility (OWDDF), at the SEA Lab in Redondo Beach. The OWDDF was constructed at the RBGS decommissioned power plant pump house, previously used by Southern California Edison and AES. The OWDDF conducted larger scale testing and operated continuously from November 2010 through September 2013. The OWDDF provided West Basin an opportunity to build on the operational protocols and challenges from the Pilot project. The OWDDF's goal was to demonstrate an environmentally responsible, energy efficient, reliable desalination process.<sup>1</sup> The specific objectives were to develop data for the permitting, design, construction, and operation of West Basin's proposed full-scale desalination facility. In contrast to the Pilot Project, the OWDDF utilized full-scale equipment to refine operating parameters, perform additional water quality testing, evaluate source intake methodologies, and assess energy efficiency. Key OWDDF elements included testing/studying:

- Passive ocean intake screens ("wedgewire" screens) to reduce marine life effects;
- Pretreatment processes using 100 micron disk filters and ultrafiltration;
- Two-pass reverse osmosis system with split permeate design - hybrid membrane capable and included an energy recovery device;
- Biogrowth control strategy using preformed chloramine; and
- Marine life effects of desalination discharge.

The OWDDF operation met its objectives by developing the optimum design parameters for each process component. A key outcome was an understanding of critical real-world operational challenges. Additionally, under a myriad of operating conditions, extensive water quality data was developed on the source and product waters.

### **Ocean Water Desalination Program Master Plan**

The Demonstration Project's results were used as the foundation for development of a full-scale design, permitting, and operations approach, which is presented in the Ocean Water Desalination Program Master Plan (PMP).<sup>2</sup> Key Project components include supply availability, water demands, siting alternatives, intake and discharge facilities, treatment process engineering and technological requirements, conveyance and distribution requirements, environmental and permitting requirements, and power supply development, among others. The PMP included an extensive evaluation of desalination alternatives, including intake, discharge, conveyance, and desalination plant sites. The PMP evaluated several desalination plant scenarios at both the ESGS and RBGS sites.

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<sup>1</sup> West Basin Municipal Water District and SPI, *Comprehensive Results of West Basin Municipal Water District's Multi-Year Ocean Water Desalination Demonstration Project*, February 27, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> The PMP can be viewed in its entirety on the West Basin website or at West Basin's Carson office. The website location is <http://www.westbasin.org/water-reliability-2020/ocean-water-desalination/current-activities>.



## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

West Basin proposes the Ocean Water Desalination Project (“Project” or “OWDP”) in order to produce between 20 and 60 million gallons per day (MGD) of potable drinking water. The 20 MGD capacity (the “Local Project”) is the minimum capacity needed to meet the West Basin service area’s future water demands at a local scale, consistent with West Basin’s UWMP and Water Reliability 2020 Program objectives to reduce dependence on imported water. The 20 MGD capacity will be evaluated at a Project level to allow subsequent regulatory permitting and construction. The OWDP EIR will also evaluate one or more “Regional Projects” of up to 60 MGD capacity, in order to address water demands at a regional scale, allowing for partnership with one or more other potential water retailers or wholesalers. Because the EIR will address a range of Project alternatives and capacities, it will be prepared as a “Program EIR” pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15168. ***The overall intent of the Program EIR will be to provide a sufficient level of detailed analysis that West Basin could pursue any of the Project options and proceed with regulatory permitting and construction.*** Unless otherwise noted, the Regional Project would generally include similar design and components as the Local Project, but at an increased size or capacity.

### Project Location

The OWDP site is proposed at the existing 33-acre ESGS, which is located at 301 Vista Del Mar, at the southwestern extent of the City of El Segundo. ***As discussed further below under “Alternative OWDP Sites,” West Basin is also considering siting the OWDP at the RBGS in Redondo Beach.*** Within the ESGS, the proposed OWDP desalination plant site is located at the southwestern extent of the ESGS site. The proposed OWDP desalination plant site is bounded by the NRG power plant and industrial facilities to the north, 45<sup>th</sup> Street and the City of Manhattan Beach to the south, the Chevron tank farm and industrial facilities to the east, and El Segundo Beach and Pacific Ocean to the west. Access to the ESGS is provided via Vista del Mar and a private gated access road located approximately 750 feet north of 45<sup>th</sup> Street. The proposed OWDP site (i.e., the southern extent of the existing power plant) contains a former fuel oil tank pad now used to support as-needed power plant operations and parking, a retention pond, helicopter pad, other appurtenant facilities, and vacant areas. The Project’s intake/discharge pipelines would traverse other portions of the ESGS site, and may use existing ESGS intake/discharge tunnels, pending West Basin’s analysis of intake/discharge alternatives. Product water conveyance lines would extend easterly within roadway right-of-ways, as shown in Exhibit 4, Conveyance Facility Corridor—El Segundo, and Exhibit 5, Alternative Conveyance Facility Corridor—Redondo Beach. OWDP appurtenant facilities (such as an electrical substation, pump station, and other small components) may be located offsite in disturbed/developed areas appropriately screened and sound attenuated from any adjacent use.

### Key Project Features

Key OWDP features are summarized below. The OWDP is based largely upon the PMP (available on the West Basin website as noted above). The OWDP will refine the PMP concept as noted below, particularly with respect to studying additional intake/discharge alternatives, and modifying the desalination plant site design and layout to avoid/minimize visual impacts and enhance compatibility with nearby residential areas. Additional information, such as preliminary design plans and technical memoranda, is available for review by contacting West Basin.

- **Commitment to Pursue a Reliable, Safe, and Balanced Water Supply Portfolio** – West Basin is committed to meeting its obligation to provide its member agencies with a reliable and safe water



supply, using a balanced water supply portfolio consistent with the Water Reliability 2020 Program and UWMP;

- **Commitment to Transparency** – West Basin is committed to engaging the public and stakeholders in a meaningful, transparent CEQA process, similar to the manner in which West Basin implemented its highly successful OWDDF at the SEA Lab;
- **Commitment to Environmentally Sustainable Design** – West Basin is an established leader in developing innovative water reclamation and treatment systems, and would continue this leadership role in pursuing the OWDP in an environmentally sustainable fashion, using the best available technology while considering other factors;
- **Commitment to Energy Minimization** – West Basin is committed to pursuing reasonable and feasible energy minimization as part of the OWDP, including consideration of rooftop solar and energy recovery devices, as well as exploring innovative concepts such as integrated water power and a thermal energy hybrid component given the Project site’s proximity to the ESGs.

### Summary of Project Facilities

The following is a summary of facilities described in the PMP (which may be modified as the OWDP proceeds through the CEQA and conceptual design process). *Please note that **all facility descriptions are conceptual**, subject to modification through the CEQA, regulatory permitting, and design processes, and may be modified based upon design constraints or stakeholder input.* Among the options noted below, West Basin may or may not select a ‘Preferred Project’ at the time of Project approval (the Project may be approved allowing for flexibility in choosing among the options or refining the options as the Project proceeds through regulatory permitting, design, and construction). The Project may also be phased to allow an initial 20 MGD facility, with infrastructure and site design configured to allow for subsequent facility expansions up to 60 MGD, subject to applicable regulatory approvals.

- **Desalination Plant Site** – the EIR will evaluate alternative desalination plant sites as discussed below under “*Alternative OWDP Sites.*” The PMP included an extensive evaluation of desalination plant sites. At this time, the EIR is anticipated to include one or more desalination plant site alternatives within the overall ESGs property, and one or more desalination plant site alternatives within the RBGS property. West Basin has a long history of discussing OWDP siting options at both facilities, and is currently evaluating siting options.
- **Intake/Discharge Facilities** – A range of intake/discharge options will be evaluated, including various concepts for reuse of the existing ESGs intake/discharge tunnels, as well as new intake or discharge tunnels (constructed using trenchless technologies such as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or micro-tunneling). Various passive intake (wedgewire) screen concepts will be studied to reduce marine life effects. The Program EIR *Alternatives to the Proposed Project* Section will address additional alternatives (see below).
- **Inlet raw water pump station** consisting of a subgrade rectangular storage tank to equalize flows and vertical turbine pumps to draw water from the tank at the required flow and operating pressure for the pretreatment system facilities.
- **Pretreatment of source water system facilities** will be addressed including various options for chemical addition, initial screening, and Micro Filtration/Ultra Filtration (MF/UF) treatment, with the goal of meeting all applicable water quality standards and other regulatory requirements.
- Waste from pretreatment facilities with residual coagulant would be sent to the **solids handling system** and neutralized prior to sewer disposal (coagulant and associated solids handling/disposal



would generally only be used when needed to allow continuous OWDP operation, such as occasional algal bloom events).

- **MF/UF filtrate booster pump station** (with or without intermediate storage) to achieve the pressure to operate the reverse osmosis (RO) process (**optional cartridge filtration** would be required if an intermediate filtrate storage tank is employed to protect the RO process membranes from any incidental debris that may enter the tank).
- RO desalination treatment would be accomplished through a process which employs semi-permeable membranes to remove dissolved salts from the raw ocean water supply, producing a purified permeate stream and concentrated waste brine stream.
- Combined permeate from the RO desalination process would be sent to the **post-treatment process and chemical addition/treatment** would be used to stabilize and disinfect the product water.
- **Final product storage** is proposed in a clearwell to accommodate treatment process operational needs, provide contact time for disinfection, and provide storage necessary to meet diurnal demand variations.
- **Distribution pumping** would include a pump station using vertical turbine pumps to pump the product water to the conveyance system.
- **Product Water Conveyance Lines** will extend from the OWDP easterly to deliver the product water into the local and/or regional water distribution system (see Exhibits 4 and 5).
- **Power Supply Options** will be evaluated, including power directly from the electric grid, “inside the fence” power from ESGS, independent power generation from a new gas-fired power generation facility potentially jointly owned/operated by NRG and West Basin (to be addressed through the California Energy Commission process), and/or including integrated water power and/or a thermal energy hybrid component using power plant waste heat.
- **Non-process facilities** including an electrical substation, maintenance/operations/laboratory, and an administration/education center (the specifics of these accessory uses will be described in the EIR, but are generally anticipated to include adequate onsite office space for West Basin, potential shared office space and/or conference room space with NRG, and one or more public amenities such as a community meeting room and/or Water Education Center).

#### **Summary of Permits and Approvals Required**

West Basin is serving as the CEQA Lead Agency and will consider the Final EIR for certification and the Project for approval. Additional permits and/or approvals from the following agencies are anticipated to be necessary for implementation of the OWDP:

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers** – Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit and Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 Permit; Federal Agency Consultation/Coordination;
- **California Coastal Commission** – Local Coastal Program Consistency and Coastal Development Permit;
- **State Lands Commission** – Lease or Lease Amendment;
- **City of El Segundo** – Coastal Development Permit, Encroachment Permit
- **Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board** – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit, Waste Discharge Requirements, and Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification;
- **California Energy Commission** – Petition to Amend El Segundo Energy Center LLC’s existing License;



- **California Division of Drinking Water** – Domestic Water Supply Permit;
- **Caltrans** – Encroachment Permit;
- **Los Angeles County Sanitation District** – Sanitary Sewer Connection;
- **South Coast Air Quality Management District** – Permits to Construct/Operate;
- **NRG**– Various Real Estate, Power Purchase, or Other Agreements;
- **Local Agencies/Utilities** – Various Private Utility Connections/Service Extensions;

Consultation is anticipated with the following agencies, for which permits/approvals may also be required:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Endangered Species Act (Section 7 Consultation);
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife – California Endangered Species Act;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries Service) – Marine Mammal Protection Act, Sustainable Fisheries Act, and Endangered Species Act;
- U.S. Coast Guard (Consultation);
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Consultation);
- California Department of Toxic Substances Control (Site Remediation/Consultation);
- State Historic Preservation Officer;
- State Water Resources Control Board (potential for State Revolving Fund and Grant Funding)
- Federal Agency National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance (for Federal Permits, Potential for Federal Funding)

## **SUMMARY OF KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

The following is a list of issues anticipated to be discussed in the EIR, based on preliminary Project review (the list of issues is not exhaustive). The EIR will evaluate potential OWDP impacts for each of the topics below, considering various Project siting, design and technology options, including an alternative desalination plant site at RBGS.

- Aesthetics, Light and Glare;
- Air Quality;
- Biological Resources (*Marine and Terrestrial*);
- Cultural Resources;
- Geology and Soils;
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions;
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials;
- Hydrology and Water Quality;
- Land Use and Planning;
- Noise;
- Public Services;
- Recreation;
- Transportation and Traffic; and
- Utilities and Service Systems.

Other CEQA mandated sections (i.e., alternatives, cumulative impacts, growth inducement, etc.) will also be evaluated in this EIR. A brief summary of Project Alternatives is provided below, although these are subject to modification through the CEQA process.

### **Aesthetics, Light and Glare**

The OWDP facilities would be located within currently disturbed land on the ESGS site. The EIR will analyze the Project’s potential impacts concerning aesthetics/light and glare on the surrounding environment.





Impacts related to scenic vistas within and surrounding Vista Del Mar Avenue and Manhattan Beach neighborhoods will be evaluated. Consistency with the City of El Segundo General Plan (concerning designated scenic vistas and resources) and Coastal Act will also be analyzed. The Project's potential to create light or glare will be examined. The OWDP site design will consider grading, landscaping, and architectural design treatments to protect/enhance views and ensure compatibility.

### **Air Quality**

The EIR will evaluate short-term construction-related and long-term operational emissions based upon South Coast Air Quality Management District standards. The EIR will evaluate energy emission implications of various Project component options, including potential power supply alternatives, which may include "self-generated power" and/or thermal distillation.

### **Biological Resources**

The EIR will evaluate potential OWDP impacts upon terrestrial and marine biological resources. Since the ESGS site is fully developed and offsite conveyance lines are anticipated to be within roadway right-of-ways, the EIR will primarily focus on marine biological resources. Marine biological resource analysis will be based on available marine biological data. The EIR will evaluate potential effects of ocean water intake (including evaluation of various intake alternatives), ocean water discharge (including evaluation of various discharge options and diffuser designs), and related effects.

### **Cultural Resources**

The EIR will evaluate potential Project impacts upon archaeological, paleontological and historic resources. Given that the ESGS site is fully developed and offsite conveyance lines are anticipated to be within roadway right-of-ways, this is not anticipated to be a significant issue. The EIR will address the potential for discovering cultural resources during OWDP construction, particularly during deep excavation or trenching.

### **Geology and Soils**

The EIR will evaluate the potential exposure of people/structures to seismic and geologic-related hazards.

### **Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG)**

The EIR will evaluate the OWDP potential effects on global climate change, including construction-related and operational GHG emissions. The analysis will evaluate various design options and recommend mitigation measures to minimize GHG emissions and overall energy demand, including consideration of energy efficient desalination plant operation, thermal distillation, renewable energy, and other measures.

### **Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

The EIR will evaluate relevant potential hazards including hazardous materials. The ESGS site is known to contain various hazardous materials common to power plant operations, such as petroleum hydrocarbons and other constituents. The retention pond area may be used by the OWDP, subject to completion of remediation and closure acceptable to applicable regulatory agencies and West Basin. The EIR will also



address other hazards, including the site's close proximity to the Pacific Ocean and related concerns such as storm surge, tsunami, sea level rise, and coastal erosion.

## **Hydrology and Water Quality**

The EIR will address potential OWDP effects upon surface hydrology (such as providing adequate storm water drainage) and water quality. The water quality discussion will include evaluation of surface water quality, as well as ocean water quality pursuant to the California Ocean Plan and Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and other applicable local, state and federal regulations. The ESGS site has an existing stormwater discharge outlet, which may be modified by the Project. The OWDP desalination concentrate may be discharged either through an existing ESGS tunnel or a new HDD tunnel, with either option including a "rosette" style discharge diffuser to meet applicable ocean water quality standards. OWDP drinking water will also be required to meet applicable drinking water standards, as well as be compatible with end user water quality requirements.

## **Land Use and Planning**

The EIR will address OWDP consistency with applicable local, state and federal land use and planning policies and regulations adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect. This analysis will focus on the Project's consistency with City of El Segundo's Local Coastal Program, California Energy Commission (CEC) licensing of the El Segundo Energy Center, compatibility with the adjacent El Porto community in the City of Manhattan Beach, and Coastal Act Consistency for the offshore facilities. Conveyance lines and other OWDP activities in other jurisdictions will be evaluated using applicable regulations.

## **Noise**

Although construction of the OWDP and its operation are not expected to generate localized external noise sufficient to exceed established noise ordinances or thresholds of significance, an on-site noise analysis will be performed as part of the EIR, in order to identify any necessary mitigation measures. The EIR's noise analysis will consider sensitive receptors located in proximity to the Project site, such as residential uses situated to the south.

## **Public Services**

The EIR will evaluate the possible effects to fire and police protection resulting from increased demand created by the Project. The EIR will also address adequacy of emergency access into the site, and potential temporary effects upon emergency responders due to OWDP conveyance line construction in public streets.

## **Recreation**

The EIR will address the OWDP potential effects upon public recreation, based upon the City of El Segundo Local Coastal Program and Coastal Act policies. The ESGS site does not have any public access. OWDP construction may temporarily affect access along 45<sup>th</sup> Street, Vista Del Mar, and/or the existing public bicycle path running along the western ESGS site boundary. The EIR will evaluate opportunities to improve and enhance existing public recreation spaces and access.



## **Traffic and Circulation**

The EIR will evaluate construction-related and operational traffic and circulation issues, including potential temporary disruption of existing public streets during OWDP desalination plant and conveyance line construction.

## **Utilities and Service Systems**

The OWDP will require connections to various infrastructure facilities such as water (for potable uses by employees and visitors), sewer (for domestic purposes and for disposal of pretreatment and reverse osmosis cleaning solutions), telephone/cable, and electricity. The EIR will evaluate the potential physical impacts associated with connections to these facilities, and the possible effects resulting from increased demand created by the Project.

## **Cumulative Impacts**

As required by CEQA, potential cumulative impacts of the Project when added to all other reasonably foreseeable projects in the vicinity will be addressed within the EIR. The cumulative projects to be considered will include those from local agencies in the immediate Project area (primarily for cumulative construction impacts upon local streets), as well as cumulative ocean intake/discharge projects in the Santa Monica Bay.

## **Alternative OWDP Site – AES RBGS**

West Basin has evaluated desalination, intake and discharge options at AES RBGS since 2006, and sited the OWDDF (demonstration facility) at the RBGS site (SEA Lab). The 2006 demonstration project siting studies evaluated several site options at RBGS. The PMP evaluated 10, 20, 40 and 60 MGD desalination plant site configurations at RBGS, in addition to various options for intake, discharge and conveyance into West Basin's system. West Basin continues to discuss siting options with AES, and the RBGS site remains as a potentially viable candidate for the OWDP.

## **Alternatives**

The EIR will evaluate a "reasonable range" of Project alternatives. Several Project options will be evaluated in the main body of the EIR as noted above. Other Project Alternatives, considered but either rejected or not currently being pursued by West Basin as part of this Project, will be addressed in the EIR. This summary of alternatives is preliminary, as West Basin anticipates input from the public and stakeholders regarding appropriate alternatives to consider.

- **Intake/Discharge Alternatives** – alternative locations and technologies, including subsurface intakes;
- **OWDP Desalination Site Design Alternatives;**
- **Power Supply Alternatives** – additional power supply options, including renewable energy;
- **Conveyance Alternatives** – additional conveyance alignment alternatives;
- **Alternative OWDP Plant Sites** – this has been evaluated extensively in the past, and will be summarized in the EIR. This analysis will consider development of the OWDP at the AES RBGS located at 1100 North Harbor Drive.

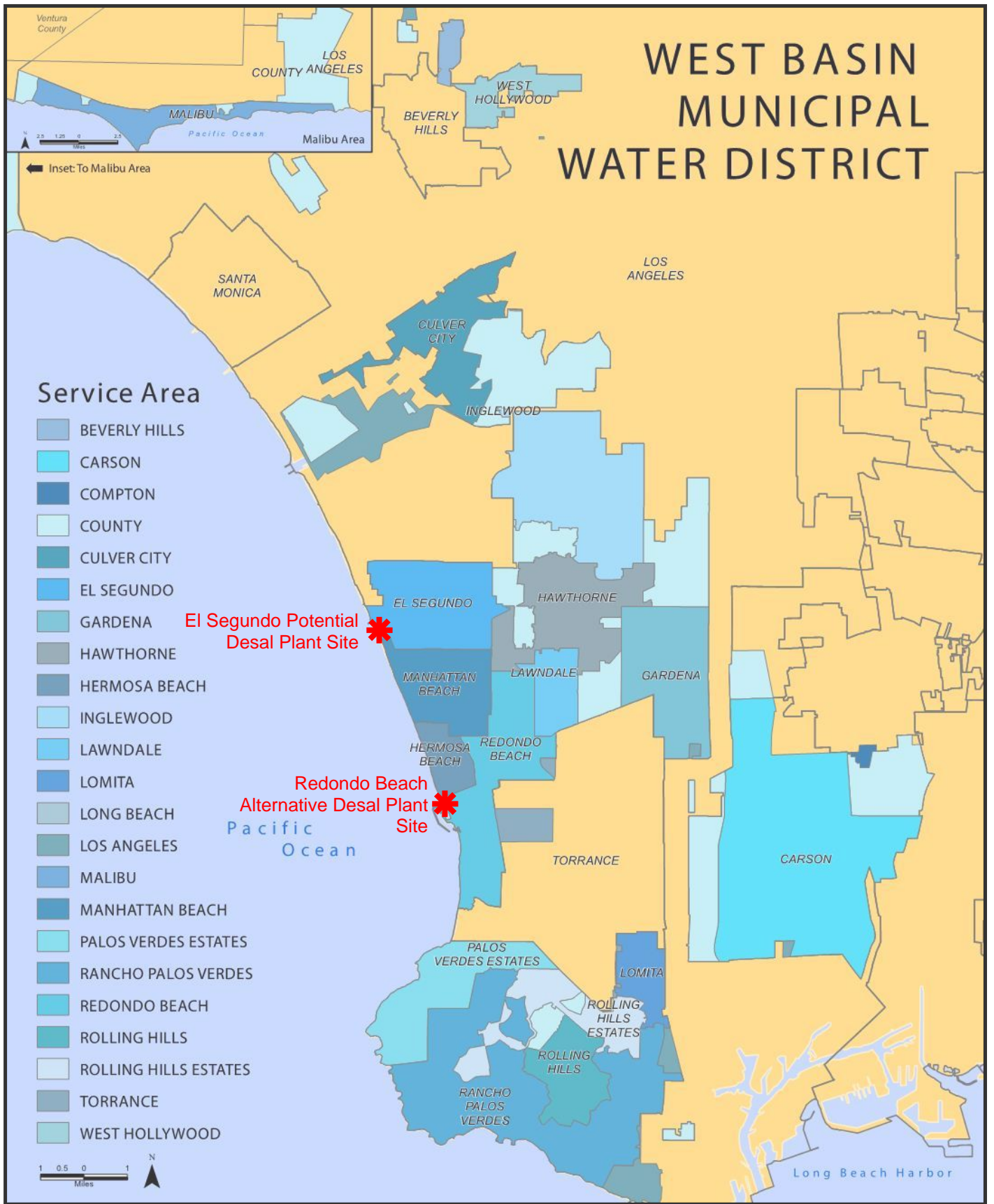


- **Water Supply Alternatives** – the EIR will address a range of water supply alternatives and their implications to the proposed OWDP, including:
  - Conservation;
  - Reclamation (non-potable use);
  - Indirect Potable Reuse;
  - Direct Potable Reuse;
  - Brackish Groundwater Desalination;
  - Increased Local Groundwater Extraction;
  - Urban Runoff & Grey Water Recycling; and
  - New Imported Water Supplies.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS**

Following completion of the 45-day Notice of Preparation public review period, West Basin will incorporate relevant information into the Draft EIR, including results of public scoping and technical studies. The Draft EIR will be circulated for public review and comment for a 60-day public review period (note that CEQA only requires a 45-day public review period). All individuals that have requested to be notified, in writing, will be placed on a Notice of Availability list for the Draft EIR. In addition, the Draft EIR and related materials will be available for review at the West Basin Municipal Water District, 17140 South Avalon Boulevard, Suite 210, Carson, CA 90746. Following receipt of all written comments on the Draft EIR, West Basin will prepare Responses to Comments as part of the Final EIR, which will be considered and acted upon by West Basin’s Board of Directors. West Basin will provide notification of future public meetings for this project to individuals that have requested to be included on the Project interest list.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding this Notice of Preparation, please contact Ms. Diane Gatza, West Basin Municipal Water District, Water Resources Engineer at the Desal Line: (310) 660-6232 or at [DesalEIR@WestBasin.org](mailto:DesalEIR@WestBasin.org).



Note: Facility locations are conceptual only and are subject to change throughout the CEQA, permitting and final design process



Not to Scale

**Michael Baker**

INTERNATIONAL

JN 134935

## West Basin Ocean Water Desalination Project **Local Vicinity Map**



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Note: Facility locations are conceptual only and are subject to change throughout the CEQA, permitting and final design process.  
Aerial photo: Google imagery

## WEST BASIN OCEAN WATER DESALINATION PROJECT Project Study Area - El Segundo



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**INTAKE /  
DISCHARGE  
AREA**

**POTENTIAL  
DESAL  
PLANT  
SITE**

Note: Facility locations are conceptual only and are subject to change throughout the CEQA, permitting and final design process.

Aerial photo: Google imagery

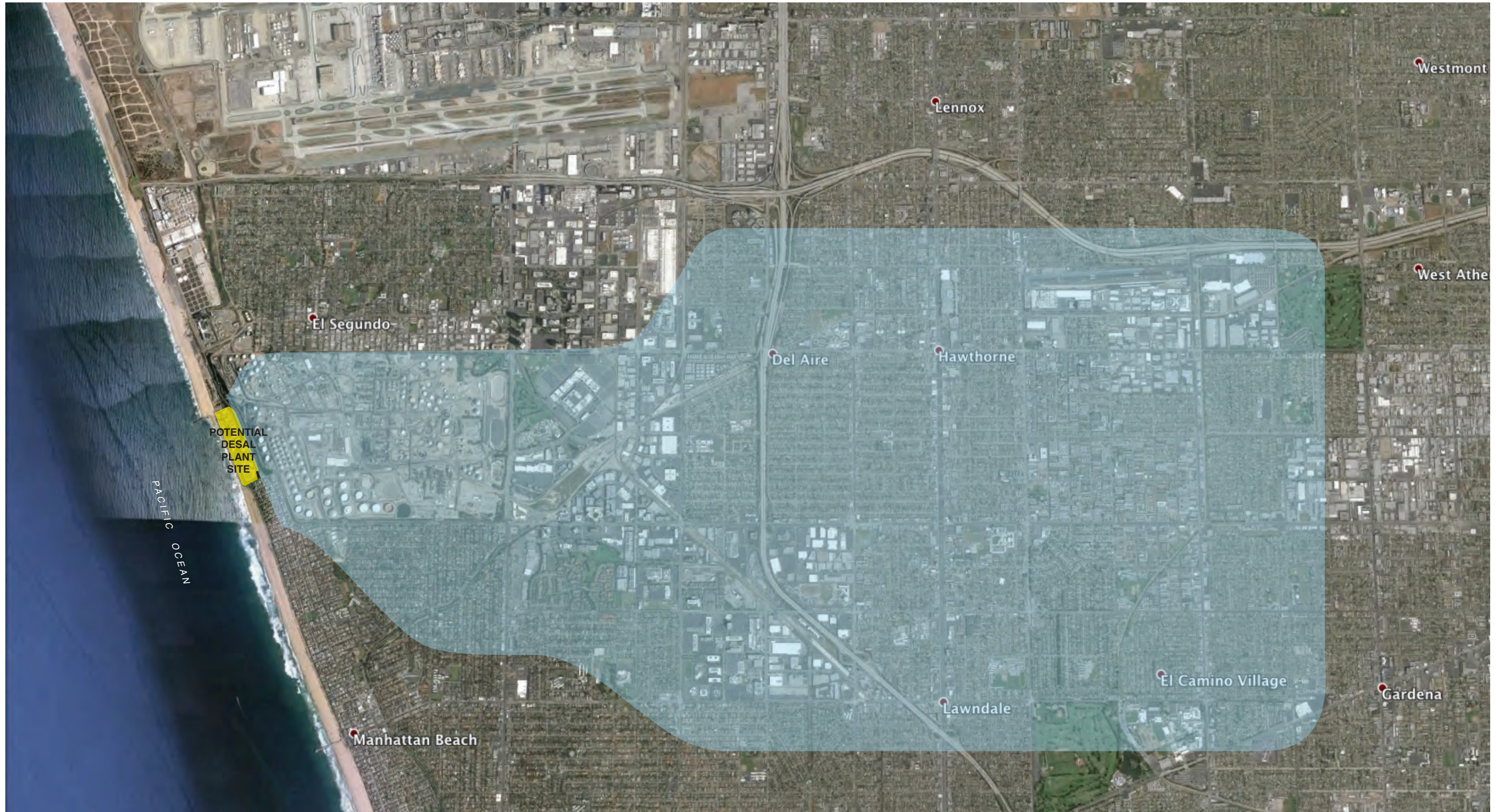
**WEST BASIN OCEAN WATER DESALINATION PROJECT**

## **Alternative Project Study Area - Redondo Beach**





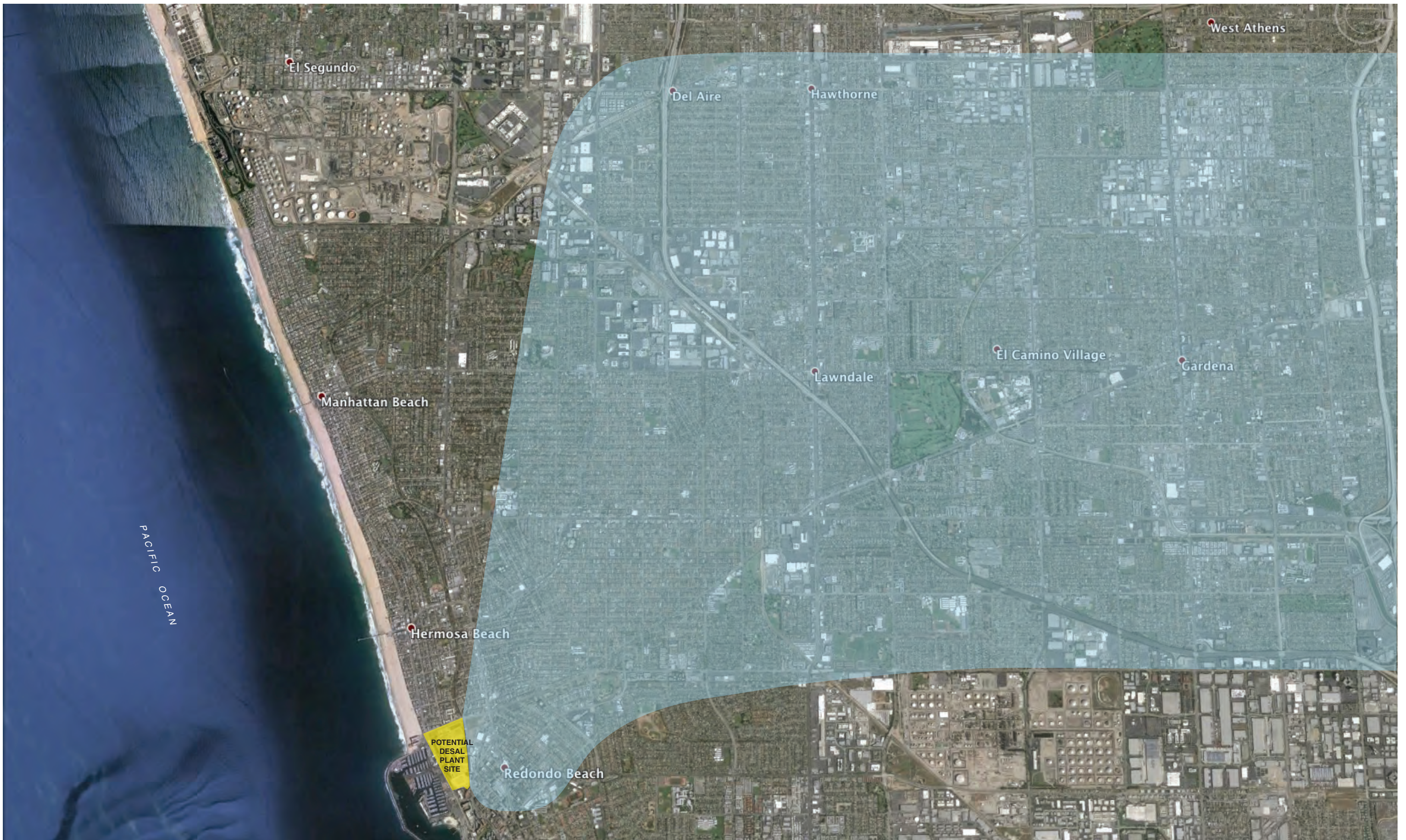
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Note: Facility locations are conceptual only and are subject to change throughout the CEQA, permitting and final design process.  
Aerial photo: Google imagery



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Aerial photo: Google imagery

WEST BASIN OCEAN WATER DESALINATION PROJECT  
**Alternative Conveyance Facility Corridor - Redondo Beach**



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