

Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility (BGNDRF) Newsletter



From the Manager: We are pleased to present another issue of our periodic newsletter. It is designed to be a brief, information-filled page that will be of interest to our customers and friends. Feedback is welcome. Please contact me at (575) 443-6553 or email me at: rshaw@usbr.gov. Kind Regards, Randy Shaw, PE

The Desal Prize is Coming to BGNDRF

Coinciding with World Water Day, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Swedish International Development Agency, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands announced the Desal Prize. This is a competition that incentivizes the creation of a small-scale, brackish water, desalination unit that can provide potable water for humans as well as water appropriate for livestock and crops in developing countries. The criteria for winning are:

- Provides water that is both potable and appropriate for small-scale agriculture.
- Relies on renewable energy.
- Offers improvement on brine minimization.
- Utilizes a chemical-free process.
- Cost efficient, portable, durable, and easy to maintain.

The Desal Prize process presently involves a Request for Information (RFI) concerning feedback and suggestions for the Desal Prize. The RFI period started March 22 and runs through April 14, 2014. Applications for participating in the competition will be accepted from May to July 2014. Ten to twelve semi-finalists will be selected in September 2014. Each semi-finalist will be given \$5,000 to build a prototype or further develop their device which will be tested at BGNDRF in the Spring of 2015. Finalists will be selected at BGNDRF and receive an additional \$5,000 in order to continue optimization of their device for field testing. A panel of judges will announce the awardee(s) of the \$500,000 grand prize during World Water Week in September 2015.

For more Information about the Desal Prize: www.thedesalprize.org

New Mexico Governor Suzanna Martinez's to Visit BGNDRF: 4/10/2014

Current Research at BGNDRF

- EDR Power Consumption Research (NMSU)
- Radial Deionization Pilot Testing (Danlin Industries)
- Solar Distillation Pilot Testing (KII, Inc.)

Upcoming Research at BGNDRF

- EDR Segmented Electrode Research (NMSU)
- Forward Osmosis Pilot Testing (Oasys Water)
- Advanced Hydro's Automated Flexible UF RO (USBR)
- Irrigation of Halophytes with RO Concentrate (University of Arizona)
- Ion Exchange "Knew Process" Pilot Testing (Trailblazer Technologies)

For More Information about BGNDRF: <http://www.usbr.gov/research/AWT/BGNDRF/index.html>