

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 Semifinalist Nominees Announced

The international competition for the Desal Prize is coming to BGNDRF. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announced the Desal Prize in March 2014. This is a competition that incentivizes the creation of environmentally sustainable, small-scale, brackish water, desalination technologies that can provide potable water for humans as well as agriculture in developing countries. Reclamation is providing support in the design and implementation of the event. Semifinalist competition will take place April 7-13, 2015 at BGNDRF. Up to 3 finalists will be selected to compete at a site in Jordan in September 2015. The winner will receive the grand prize of \$250,000.

A total of 68 applications were received from 29 countries from teams interested in participating in this event. A panel of judges recently selected the following 8 semifinalist nominees:

- **Green Desal:** Autonomous Sustainable Brackish Desalination System (Brazil, Israel, Jordan, Nepal, USA)
- **Atlantis Technologies:** "Radial Deionization" Advanced Capacitive Deionization Technology Powered by Solar/Battery System (USA)
- **Econopure:** Brackish Water Processing System Based on Membrane Purification and Brine Evaporation (USA)
- **MIT Global Engineering and Research Laboratory:** Photovoltaic –Powered Electrodialysis System (USA, India)
- **Porifera:** Hybrid Forward Osmosis and Reverse Osmosis (USA)
- **Practical Solar:** Combination of Nanofiltration and Capacitive Electro-Deionization (South Africa)
- **Suns River UTEP:** Mid-Sized, Solar Powered Multi-Stage Flash Desalination with Zero Liquid Discharge (USA)
- **UTEP Center for Inland Desalination Systems:** Hybrid Process Utilizing Nanofiltration and Electrodialysis Metathesis to Desalinate Brackish Water with High Recovery

An abbreviated schedule of the semifinalist competition week is presented below.

Desal Prize Day	Description
Day 1: Tuesday, 4/7	Orientation; Prototype Assembly
Day 2: Wednesday, 4/8	Prototype Optimization; Presentations
Day 3: Thursday, 4/9	Competition; Onsite Presentations; VIP Tours
Day 4: Friday, 4/10	Data Collection; Optimization; School Tours
Day 5: Saturday, 4/11	Competition; Public Tours
Day 6: Sunday, 4/12	Data Collection; Pack Prototypes for Shipping

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

For More Information about the Desal Prize: <http://www.securingswaterforfood.org/the-desal-prize/>