

## Dear CalDesal Member:

I want to extend CalDesal's great appreciation to you and your organization for the continued support of our association during 2021-22 as we – like all of you – continued to navigate through prolonged and lingering pandemic conditions. Getting back to "normal" has been our objective but has continued to prove slow and challenging during this most recent fiscal year. That said, we are optimistic that 2022-23 will fully welcome us back to in-person events and activities, and continued opportunities to make substantial progress on important policy, regulatory, legislative, funding, and permitting issues of interest to brackish and ocean desalination and salinity management objectives.

While 2021-22 was a rollercoaster year, at CalDesal we embraced the challenges and delivered both in-person and virtual programming and content for the value of our members. Here is a sample of the work that we have carried out with our members this year:

- Completed a full transition to new administrative leadership of CalDesal, including the selection of a new Executive Director and legislative advocacy team.
- Held our Board of Directors' meeting remotely during December 2021 and in-person at the ACWA Spring Conference in Sacramento during May 2022.
- Executed a successful virtual CalDesal Annual Conference in February 2022 with a full, diversified program along with interesting keynote speaker Jim Wunderman (Bay Area Council).
- Engaged the Legislature and Administration regarding policy legislation of interest to CalDesal and to advance initiatives related to water and drought resilience infrastructure and outreach/communications funding.
- Continued to host regular committee meetings for Regulatory, Legislative, Outreach Communications, Executive, and Events Planning committees.
- Developed and implemented programs through the CalDesal Outreach Communications Committee to update and migrate the CalDesal website, improve social media presence and reach, improve the ongoing event sponsorship program, and develop a standard desalination outreach and education presentation package for use in a variety of public settings.

Now, more than ever, the advancement of desalination is critical to help improve water resilience and California's efforts to truly advance an "All of the Above" approach to water supply development and management. As you know well given your membership in CalDesal, desalination is an important tool that must be available for California's future. Desalination is critical:

- For local water supply reliability and diversification, critical for water security
- For drought preparedness
- To hedge against future emerging drinking water contaminants
- To help address climate change effects
- To protect Californians' quality of life and economy

And it is critical that CalDesal continues to communicate, advocate, educate, and disseminate this message to all Californians and federal, state, regional, and local policymakers.

As more activities continue to migrate toward conventional in-person settings, we look forward to seeing you in person at the ACWA Fall Conference during the week of November 29 – December 2, 2022. Please mark your calendars for our always-popular and well-attended Mixer event! We anticipate that it will be held on Wednesday, November 30 at a convenient location at the ACWA Fall Conference in Indian Wells. Please stay tuned for updates on the Mixer's theme as well as sponsorship information.

In the meantime, we want to thank you for continuing to be a member of CalDesal. We have enjoyed serving you and look forward to your continued participation in the association. Please note the attached invoice for 2022-23 Annual Dues which is due and payable now. Additionally, we would ask that you follow this <u>link</u> to provide CalDesal with updated contact information for your organization to ensure that out records are current and so that our communications to you and your organization remain timely and beneficial.

With appreciation and warm regards,

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