

Zone 7 Water Agency Livermore, California

I. Respondent: Bill Sadler, Water Facilities Supervisor

II. Treatment Plant Characteristics:

Mocho Groundwater Demineralization Plant, Reverse Osmosis (RO)
200,000 people served
105 employees

III. Innovation:

A. Description

Salt Management with Mocho Groundwater Demineralization Plant

With the accumulation of salts in the Livermore-Amador Valley's main groundwater basin, Zone 7 Water Agency built the Mocho Groundwater Demineralization Plant.

B. Type of Innovation

Optimization of existing resource

C. Motivation for Innovation

Accumulation of salts in the Livermore-Amador Valley's main groundwater basin

D. Barriers/Challenges

Several years of planning and capital costs for the groundwater demineralization plant and built in the middle of Pleasanton at a very busy intersection.

E. Benefits

Softened groundwater to resolve water quality issues and make possible the future use of recycled water for irrigation.

F. Effect on Staff Training

The technology created challenges for agency's 19 water treatment plant operators who had no experience with RO, or of the associated SCADA system. Extensive training by the engineering firm and vendors brought the operators up to speed. The staff is now competent operating the plant and they have annual training.

G. Lessons Learned

Training and having Standard Operating Procedures available to the operators was very useful and important for the successful operation of the plant.

IV. Information Sharing:	Yes	No
Willing to host on-site tour.	X	
Willing to visit another regional water/wastewater facility to provide presentation on innovation.	X	
Willing for staff member from other utility to conduct a follow-up visit to learn more about innovations.	X	
Interested in on-line forum to discuss water/recycling/wastewater treatment issues.	X	