



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Pilot Production Wells

FACT SHEET



Mt. Hope Drilling Rig

A water resource strategy that includes conservation, recycled water and groundwater supplies will help meet future water needs.

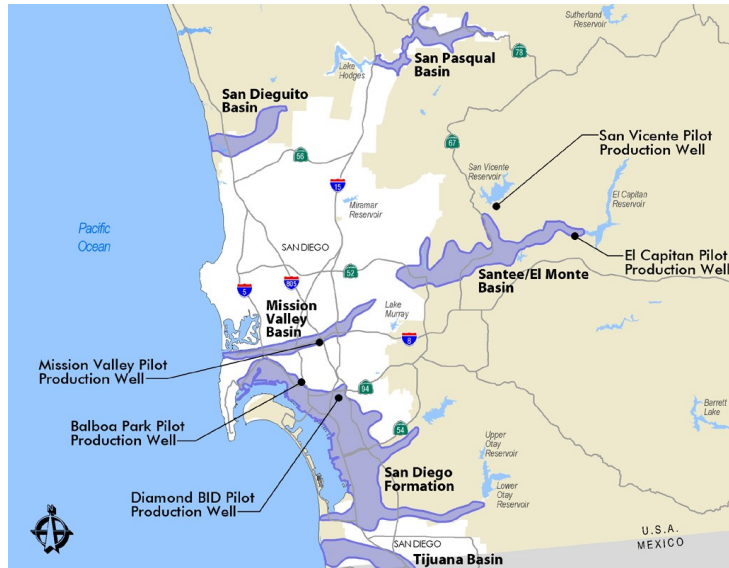


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Developing Potable Water Supplies

One of the top priorities of the City of San Diego is developing new local water supplies and storage. The use of groundwater contributes to a regional effort to reduce demands for imported water.

Pilot Production Wells Investigations involve the installation of wells, well pumps, treatment, and conveyance systems at locations that overlay the City’s groundwater basins. The purpose of the investigation is to evaluate the groundwater production potential of three groundwater basins within the City’s jurisdiction to determine the water supply production potential of each basin for use as a new local water supply source. The pilot production wells will be used to field test the aquifers into which they are installed by applying a regulated stress through pumping to determine aquifer performance. The evaluations will determine the viability of installing full-scale production well fields in each basin.



The City commissioned its first pilot production well in 2008 at the base of the San Vicente dam. Four new pilot production wells are proposed: Santee-El Monte Basin, Mission Valley Basin, and two in the San Diego Formation.

Pilot Production Well Investigations will be implemented in three phases. In Phase 1, the wells will be sited, drilled, and tested for capacity and hydraulic parameters. During Phase 2, pumping tests will be conducted to refine hydraulic parameters and assess changes in local groundwater levels. Phase 3 will assess regional changes to groundwater levels, or other impacts, through aquifer performance testing for an approximate two-year period. The groundwater extracted during Phase 3 will be treated (if necessary) and conveyed for beneficial use.

- Estimated Costs:** \$2 to \$3 million for Phases 1 and 2 and an additional \$5 to \$6 million for Phase 3
- Timeline:** 3-5 years
- Grant Funding:** Awarded \$500,000 from SDCWA’s Local Investigative Studies Assistance program