

# WATER DESALINATION REPORT

The international weekly for desalination and advanced water treatment since 1965

---

Volume 59, Number 28

7 August 2023

## Excerpt from 07/08/23 issue

### Company News

#### **BATCH RO MAY BE NUTRIENT REMOVAL SOLUTION**

Somerset Council, the authority governing southwest England's Somerset county, has applied for a £10.5 million (\$13.4 million) grant from the government's Nutrient Mitigation Fund to expand the Council's existing phosphate credit scheme for phosphate mitigation measures, including a secondary treatment process at wastewater treatment works in the catchment area. The additional nutrient removal credits to 2030 are necessary to allow for the development of a backlog of 18,000 new homes and to provide for long-term nature recovery.

The Council developed a county-wide nutrient strategy, and created one of the first local authority-led phosphate credits schemes in England. The strategy produced guidance for developers, and created a bespoke phosphate calculator to enable applicants to calculate their phosphate load. Seventy-four other local authorities across the country are said to be affected by similar nutrient removal challenges.

According to the UK-based Salinity Solutions, a batch RO-system specialist, some of the funding is expected to be earmarked for the installation of its modular BWRO systems.

Salinity Solutions and Wessex Water have already undertaken a trial for the Council, which demonstrated the efficacy of their system for phosphate mitigation. Early indications of a pilot test at the Fivehead Wastewater Treatment Works near Taunton demonstrated over 98% removal of phosphates and 88% removal of nitrates.

Tim Naughton, Salinity Solutions' CTO and founder, said, "Our unit was up and running within a day and we're very pleased with the initial results, which indicate that it's highly effective. The system uses 50% less energy than comparable alternatives, which is an important advantage when considering a multi-year installation."