

## SALINE WATER PROJECT ROSWELL -- DEVELOPMENT

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Before we begin any discussion of present developments or future prospects regarding any water project we need to consider just what has occurred prior to the present stage of development.

My remarks will be primarily introductory:

1. Roswell's water problems are not unusual...More than 1000 communities were forced to curtail the use of water in recent years.....45 states felt water shortages..... ROSWELL WAS ONE OF 55 cities that made application for this plant.
2. Why was Roswell successful?  
Teamwork - State government, State Engineers, Roswell City authorities, Roswell Chamber of Commerce, Artesian Conservancy District, Farm Bureau, Private organizations, Individual Citizens.  
Prospectus - Careful preparation of the Roswell Story.  
Government - Office of Saline Water... Dr. Miller, Under Sec. of Int. Elmer Bennett, J. W. O'Meara, Ernest Eaton, The USGS, Anderson & Morris.
3. Exploratory search and self-help  
Water worth  $7\frac{1}{2}$  times what crude oil is?  
Projects must be economically sound.
4. Education  
We are a nation conditioned to abundance. We take our blessings for granted. We expect our CUP TO RUN OVER with cool, clean water at the simple turn of a tap - Why treasure that which COSTS US LESS THAN 10¢ PER TON DELIVERED?  
  
We need to give our citizens a better sense of values. Much needs to be done in the field of resource education.
5. Engineering and Politics  
The problem is one of engineering - the solution is basically political.... Political solution must be directed by a combination of well informed voters and dedicated political representatives. Should be accomplished under a free enterprise system.
6. Conclusions  
New Mexico is most fortunate to have the Brackish Water Conversion Plant for the Arid Southwest... Let's keep our shoulders to the wheel on this project that holds such wonderful promise for the Land of Enchantment.

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