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Our New Evolution in Wastewater Treatment

REGIONALSAN

region's wastewater treatment to a whole new level.

Environmental Protection



3, will

Sustainability & Innovation



Customer & Financial Accountability



For Residents

When water

For Businesses



Construction Underway

The project is now in the construction phase—get current construction updates [here](#).

Low-Interest Financing Saving Millions

The project has received nearly \$1.6 billion in low-interest financing from the State of California's Clean Water State Revolving Fund. The favorable loan terms will save ratepayers more than a half billion dollars in interest costs. Read more [here](#).

This low-interest financing for the EchoWater Project has been provided in part by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund through an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board.

EchoWater Fact Sheet

 [View the Fact Sheet](#)

Regulatory Permit Conditions

For all wastewater treatment plants, the level of treatment required before the water can be released back into the environment is dictated by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. For Regional San, this wastewater discharge permit is issued by the [Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board](#) (Regional Water Board), the state agency that regulates wastewater dischargers in our region.



New Treatment Processes

Regional San's 2010 discharge permit contains strict mandates that require us to construct costly new "tertiary" treatment processes for ammonia and nitrate removal, filtration and enhanced disinfection:



Ammonia and nitrate removal: Using a process called "biological nutrient removal" (BNR), this will eliminate nearly all ammonia and most nitrate from the effluent (treated water), addressing concerns about possible impacts these constituents may have on the ecosystem, both here and downstream.

Impacts to Customer Rates

The requirements of our new discharge permit will cost our region's ratepayers about \$1.5-2.1 billion to build. On top of that, about \$50 million per year in ongoing maintenance and operations costs are anticipated.

Gradual annual rate increases to fund these improvements have already been implemented. No further rate increases will be necessary for the remainder of the project, which must be completed in 2021–2023. For more information on the rate impacts of the EchoWater Project, please visit [Monthly Rates](#).