



We Can Wait for a Crisis...

## Or Congress Can Support Desalination Legislation

America faces a water supply crisis. Drought, increasing population, and competing demands from business, agriculture, and the environment for limited water supplies has taken us to the brink. The economic, social, and environmental consequences of a water supply crisis are no longer a local or regional issue – it's a national issue that demands Congress' attention.

Desalination can be a big part of the solution. Once only a dream, desalination is increasingly becoming economically viable. Desalinating seawater and brackish groundwater can help guarantee clean and reliable water for families, farms, and business.

Congress has the opportunity to improve the competitiveness of desalination by passing **H.R. 3834**, bipartisan legislation to establish a new, competitive, performance-based program to provide energy assistance payments to seawater and brackish groundwater desalination projects. The U.S. Desalination Coalition consists of water agencies and utilities from across the nation that advocate the development of seawater and brackish water desalination projects as a way to supplement America's drinking water supplies. We urge Members of Congress and President Bush to support this important legislation to spur America into a new era of water management.

