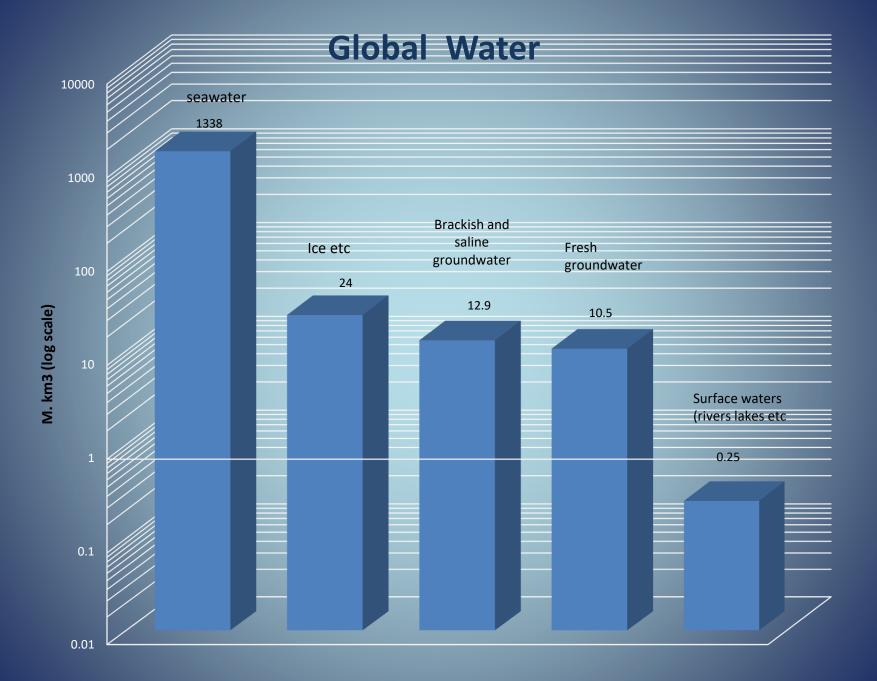
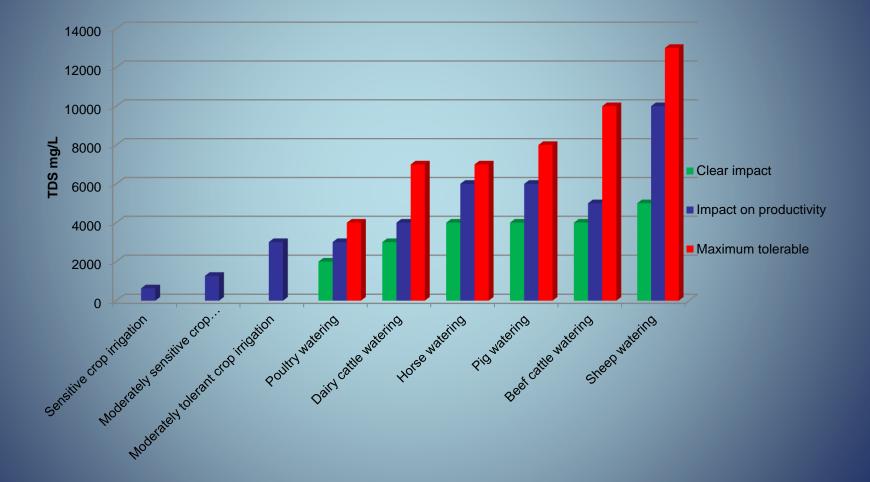
## Groundwater for coastal and island water supply unique technology approach extracting freshwater from poor quality aquifers using desalination

Chris Barber, Selva Marimuthu, Chem Nayar and Chris Dawson

Crisalis Intl Pty Ltd/C<sup>2</sup> Water Pty Ltd/Regen Power Pty Ltd



# Poor quality groundwater: Nuisance or resource?



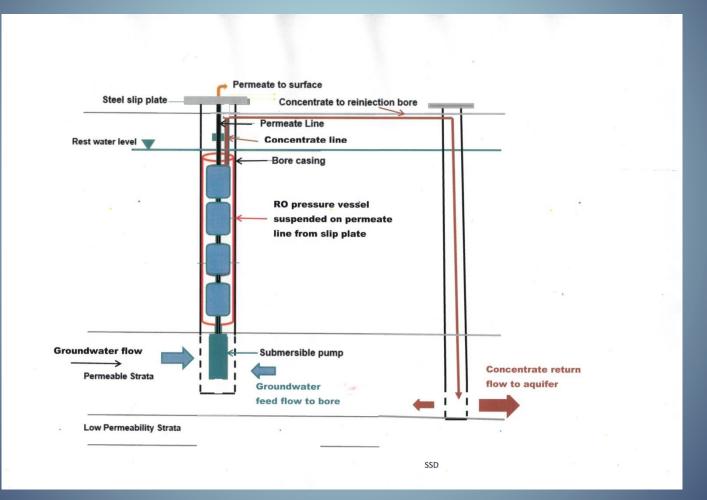
#### **Reverse Osmosis (RO) Desalination Drawbacks**

- Power costs (seawater feed particularly)
- Reject fluids (concentrates) require safe disposal
- Membrane fouling (colloids, biofoulants)
- Scaling
- Seasonal demands

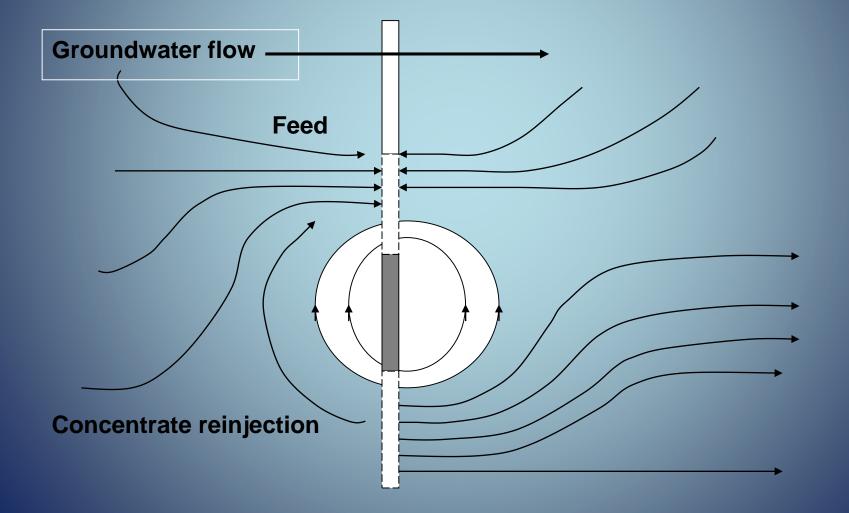
# **Unique Core Technologies**

- Sub-Surface Desalination (SSD) downhole process, based on reverse osmosis (RO) for high quality water supply
- Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) and Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) for subsurface injection and storage of RO permeate and other harvested water sources for recovery and use during periods of water supply stress
- Total Water Solution Unique technology mix

## **SSD System schematic**



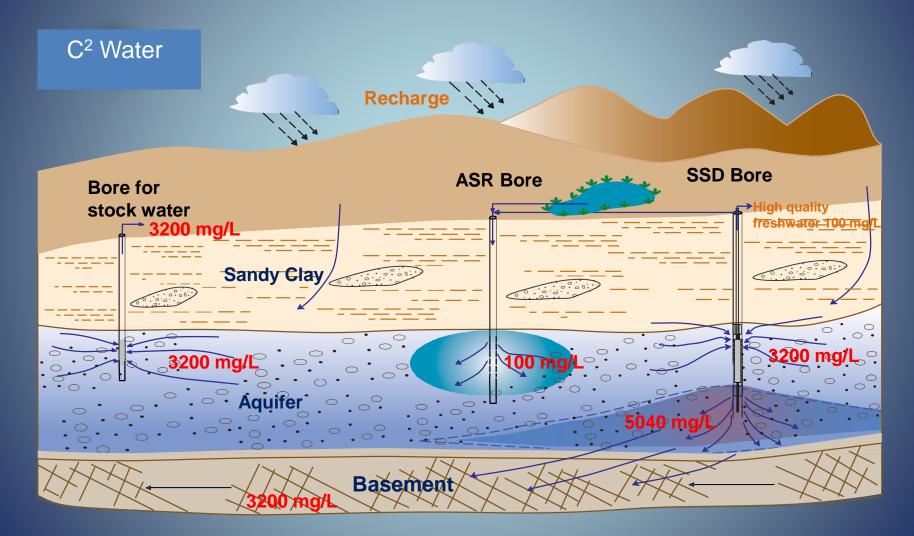
# **Conceptual model of flowlines during SSD, based on modelling results**



# MANAGED AQUIFER RECHARGE

- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) by borehole injection
- Seasonal subsurface storage in freshwater or brackish water aquifer
- Combined source water from SSD permeate with harvested rainwater / stormwater injected
- Seasonal recovery during dry season and drought for sustainability of supplies

#### SSD and ASR



# **Unique SSD/ASR Approach**

- Downhole RO treatment carried out in situ within a brackish aquifer, with connected concentrate reinjection bore
- Integrated treatment process groundwater feed, RO treatment, pumping of permeate to surface and reject (concentrate) reinjection and dispersion in the lower aquifer powered by a single submersible pump
- Seasonal demand for supplies more sustainable using combined SSD and ASR uses aquifer for groundwater feed, SSD for treatment and supply, ASR for storage during wet season and supply during dry season
- Solar diesel hybrid power in remote areas



# **Advantages of SSD Solution**

- Distributed system near point of use
- Low environmental footprint
- In situ operation under ambient groundwater conditions (eg anoxia) reduces potential for fouling; aquifer provides natural filter
- No chemicals added to feed groundwater (antiscalents) so concentrates contain only groundwater salts and disperse at lower elevations in the aquifer (density contrast, natural stratification)
- Scalable and modular, can be fitted to suitable existing bores
- Use SSD combined with Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) where there are seasonal demands for water improves sustainability of supply
- Stand-alone operation combined with Solar hybrid power supply critical for remote areas

#### What are the Benefits?

- Solution designed to have minimal environmental impact. Relies on an understanding of the aquifer system.
- Low power consumption one pump does everything (desalination, pumping & disposal)
- Combined with ASR, SSD is more efficient and sustainable
- No noise, small visual impact, small physical footprint (<1m<sup>2</sup>),
- Scalable and modular; can be retrofitted to existing bores
- Stand alone solar / hybrid power supply for remote areas

#### Early Successful Trial

# **Glenkara Vineyard, Victoria**

	Modelled DOW ROSA v6.1 model (DOW Filmtec 2007)	After 60 days of operation
Feed groundwater	3200 mg/L	3200 mg/L
Feed groundwater flow	9.75KL/h	10KL/h
Permeate TDS	89 mg/L	100 mg/L
Permeate flow	3.6KL/h	3.8-4.2KL/h (~100m³/d)
Concentrate TDS	5000 mg/L	4800-5040mg/L





### **Overall costs**

- Vary dependent on local site conditions
- Costs for delivery of water to site using SSD (including investigation, borehole drilling, system installation and capital costs, concentrate disposal, 3-monthly maintenance program, power and depreciation) can range from approximately <\$1 to ~\$1.5/KL dependent on local conditions - less than half of current costs for mains water supply in Australia

## **Cost Comparisons**

\$/KL



Crisalis Intl / C<sup>2</sup> WATER Turning Poor Quality Water into a Good Quality Water Supply

