

of investment in large water systems, improvements in the U. S. balance of trade, and many cost reducing uses for desalting type processes in industry. As well, there may be valuable foreign policy options using cheap desalting.

The cost of the program proposed for the Office of Saline Water averaged to the year 2000 represents a 50 percent increase over present expenditure levels of \$25-30 million per year. For fiscal year 1973, the funds required would be \$39 million increasing to \$55 million in 1990. After that the cost would decline rapidly so that by 1996 only a modest amount of research would need to be carried on.

The suggested program consists of (a) an analysis of potential desalting applications; (b) a desalting applications program; (c) the introduction of desalting into water planning; (d) technical and financial assistance to water agencies to undertake prototype construction of desalting plants; and (e) an applications oriented program of research and development.

The research, development and applications phase of the program must be timed to take account of emerging