

is to use large-scale desalting, it should be able to count on its economic viability early in the 1980's. If this reliability is not available then, there will be just enough time to implement some more conventional alternative arrangement. Similar kinds of scheduling considerations apply to developing intermediate size prototype plants such as may be required in the central coast of California some six to eight years hence.

There is an urgency in moving ahead now with desalting research, development and application studies if water is to be available through desalting to at least two well identified areas; namely, the central coast of California and southern California not just at the time they need to have the water, but in time for them to make other arrangements if desalting does not prove to be the most economical solution to their problem.

The same kind of timing considerations apply to other areas as well. With these as fixed points in time, there is an urgency for the Federal desalting program to move ahead.