

CATALINA ISLAND WATER PIPELINE PROJECT

BY THE NUMBERS:

- Reservoirs: **2**
- Groundwater wells: **10**
- Storage tanks: **13**
- Desalination plants: **2**
- Miles of pipeline: **more than 45**



SCE has been assessing Catalina Island's water infrastructure. Top priorities are drinking water safety, environmental protection and long-term reliability. Actions are underway to address aging pipeline segments, including removal of elements constructed in the 1960s with materials that are now regulated. SCE monitors and tests water quality, and results continue to show that the water meets or exceeds federal and state health and safety standards.

BACKGROUND

Southern California Edison has been providing water service to Catalina Island since 1962. Currently, the water infrastructure includes a series of groundwater wells, desalination facilities, reservoirs, treatment facilities, storage tanks and pipelines. SCE serves about 1 million visitors annually and 4,100 year-round residents via approximately 2,000 customer accounts.

SCE is committed to ensuring the safety of the drinking water on the island and performs routine water sampling to confirm the water quality provided throughout the system is safe and complies with all applicable drinking water standards. SCE's water utility is regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission and other agencies such as the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.

The Two Harbors Pipeline supplies water from groundwater wells to the western part of the island via the Million Gallon Tank. The pipeline has been in place since the late 1960s and was built with materials that were commonly used across the country and met industry standards at that time. While conducting planning activities to replace components of the infrastructure that are nearing the end of their useful life, SCE identified some elements that contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) at concentrations that are no longer allowed by regulation due to potential health issues.



In 2023, SCE completed a comprehensive, systemwide assessment of the water infrastructure. Some sections of pipeline previously taken out of service as part of routine repairs and maintenance have been removed from the island. SCE has conducted extensive soil samples at various locations. As a result of these assessments, and to address the aging system and regulatory requirements, SCE is working with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and other local and regional agencies to evaluate options and obtain approvals for the removal, remediation and replacement of the Two Harbors pipeline. This effort will be completed in a multiphase process.

In addition to routine compliance monitoring as required by the California Division of Drinking Water, SCE has taken steps to ensure it is providing safe, reliable and affordable water. As a precaution, SCE has installed filters and conducts extensive drinking water sampling efforts beyond state and federal requirements. To date, the water quality, including PCB and PAH levels in the drinking water throughout the system, meets or exceeds all applicable health and safety standards.



ONGOING ACTION/NEXT STEPS

SCE is working with U.S. EPA and DTSC to evaluate options and obtain approvals for the removal, remediation and replacement of the Two Harbors Pipeline. Final disposition of the pipeline will be pending review and engagement with stakeholders.

As follow-up to a comprehensive systemwide assessment, SCE will also work with regulatory agencies to address any other water infrastructure containing regulated materials, including structures previously removed from service.

Until the Two Harbors Pipeline is removed from service, SCE will continue additional water sampling efforts beyond compliance with state and federal regulations to ensure water quality meets or exceeds drinking water standards.

SCE will keep customers and all interested parties informed as the plan for final disposition of the pipeline and other infrastructure develops, and as the project is implemented.



For more information, visit [sce.com/catalinawaterpipelineproject](https://www.sce.com/catalinawaterpipelineproject)

For inquiries, please email CatalinaWaterPipeline@sce.com
or call SCE's dedicated Catalina customer support number:

1-800-367-8851, available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.