

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To:	Office of Planning and Research Post Office Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812	From:	Department of Water Resources Water Management 1516 9 th Street Sacramento, California 95814
		Contact:	Patrick Luzuriaga
		Phone:	916-820-7778

Subject	Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with § 21108 of the Public Resource Code
Project Title	Amendment to Agreement for Storage of a Portion of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s (Metropolitan’s) SWP Water in Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency’s (AVEK’s) High Desert Water Bank (HDWB) (SWP #23026-A)
State Clearinghouse Number(s)	SCH #2017061030
Lead Agency	Antelope Valley-East Kern (AVEK)
Project Location (include county)	Kern and Los Angeles Counties
Project Description	In order for Metropolitan to continue to better manage its SWP water supplies and increase water reliability to help meet water demands within its service area during periods of drought, Metropolitan requested DWR’s approval for the delivery of a portion of its approved State Water Project water supplies to Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) for temporary storage in the High Desert Water Bank (HDWB) and later recovery from HDWB for use in Metropolitan’s service area. The Agreement, SWP #23026, set forth the terms and conditions for the delivery of a portion of Metropolitan’s SWP Water to AVEK from September 12, 2023, to September 11, 2024, for temporary storage in and recovery from HDWB through December 31, 2026. This Amendment extends the terms for delivery and recovery by one year each to September 11, 2025 and December 31, 2027, respectively.
Determination	<p>This is to advise that DWR, acting as a Responsible Agency, previously approved the Agreement SWP #23026 on November 8, 2023. This one-year extension of the term of delivery and term of recovery under that agreement is within the scope of the IS/MND and its Addenda for the HDWB project, and no further CEQA review is required. DWR will file an NOD with the SCH upon execution of this Amendment has made the following determinations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. 2. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration was prepared for this project by the Lead Agency pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

	<p>3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of this project.</p> <p>4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted for this project.</p> <p>5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project.</p> <p>6. Findings were not made by DWR pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.</p> <p>Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration are available for review at the office of Antelope Valley – East Kern Water Agency, 6500 West Avenue N, Palmdale, CA, 93351.</p>
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<p>Signature:</p> <p><u>Molly White</u></p> <p>Molly White Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project</p>	<p>Date:</p> <p><u>8/16/2024</u></p>
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