

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
Post Office Box 3044
Sacramento, California 95812

FROM: State Water Project Analysis Office
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, California 95814
Department of Water Resources

Project Title: Common Landowner Transfer of up to 1,500 acre-feet of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District’s Approved 2020 State Water Project Table A Water to Westlands Water District (SWPAO #20007)

Location – Specific: From the Delta to Reach 7 of the California Aqueduct.

Location – County: Kings County

Description of Activity: The proposed project is the transfer of up to 1,500 acre-feet of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District’s (TLBWSD) approved 2020 State Water Project (SWP) Table A water to Westlands Water District (WWD). The request was made on behalf of landowner Westlake Farms Inc., which farms in both TLBWSD’s and WWD’s service areas. Westlake Farms Inc. will use the transferred water to better manage its water supplies. The delivery of TLBWSD’s approved 2020 SWP Table A water to WWD will be completed by December 31, 2020. Water delivered to WWD will be used on lands within the Kings County portion of WWD’s service area which is within the SWP place of use.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity: TLBWSD (lead agency), WWD, and DWR (responsible agency)

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Declared Emergency
- Emergency Project
- Categorical Exemption: Class 1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, existing facility
- Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729

Reason why activity is exempt:

- a. State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for delivery within SWP place of use.
- b. No construction is required to implement the proposed points of delivery.
- c. The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed change in points of delivery.
- d. The water will be delivered to lands that have been in agricultural production for many years. There will be no change in land use.

Responsible Agency Contact Person: David Rizzardo

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Signature: Pedro Villalobos

Date: 5/26/2020

Pedro Villalobos, Chief
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Governor’s Office of Planning & Research

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Date received for filing by OPR: _____