

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

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

**From:** Department of Water Resources  
State Water Project Analysis Office  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Project Title:** Conveyance of up to 2,500 acre-feet of 2020 Central Valley Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWPAO #20021).

**Location – Specific:** From O’Neill Forebay to California Aqueduct Reaches 12E through 16A.

**Location – County:** Kern County

**Description of Activity:** The Department of Water Resources (DWR) will convey up to 2,500 acre-feet of 2020 Central Valley Project (CVP) water (Non-Project Water) to Kern County Water Agency (KCWA), on behalf of Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (WRMWSO), under Article 55 of KCWA’s long-term Water Supply Contract with DWR. This Non-Project Water was acquired from Orange Cove Irrigation District, a CVP Friant Division Contractor. The United States Bureau of Reclamation will make the Non-Project Water available at O’Neill Forebay for DWR to deliver to KCWA’s service area for use in WRMWSO’s lands within the CVP place of use.

**Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity:** WRMWSO (lead agency), KCWA, 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 conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors.
- b. No construction is required to implement the proposed delivery.
- c. The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed change in points of delivery.
- d. There will be no change in land use.

**Responsible Agency Contact Person:** David Rizzardo      **Telephone:** 916-653-9593

Signature: Pedro Villalobos      Date: 7/21/2020  
Pedro Villalobos, Chief  
State Water Project Analysis Office  
Department of Water Resources

Governor’s Office of Planning & Research

**Jul 21 2020**

Date received for filing by OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**