

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 10th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

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

Project Title: South Sutter Water District 2020 Groundwater Substitution Water Transfer

Location – Specific: Sutter County near Bear River

Location – County: Sutter County

Description of Activity:

South Sutter Water District (District) is conducting a one-year 2020 Groundwater Substitution Water Transfer Program. SSWD will pump up to an additional 10,700 acre-feet of groundwater from July through September 2020 to substitute for reduced deliveries of surface water. With 13 percent streamflow depletion, up to 9,309 acre-feet of surface water foregone by the District will enter the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta). After Delta carriage water, DWR will export the remaining amount through Banks Pumping Plant and deliver to Dudley Ridge Water District (DRWD), County of Kings (KC), Alameda County Water District (ACWD) and Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) during July through September 2020.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity: SSWD, DRWD, KC, ACWD, KCWA, and DWR

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Declared Emergency
- Emergency Project
- Categorical Exemption: CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facility
- Statutory Exemption California Water Code §1729. See also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15282, subd. (u).

Reason why activity is exempt:

SSWD filed a Petition for Temporary Change with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on April 17, 2020, pursuant to Water Code § 1725 *et seq.* The SWRCB approved the transfer on June 29, 2020. In accordance with Water Code § 1729, temporary changes filed in accordance with Water Code, § 1725, *et seq.* (Temporary Changes) are exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. (Pub. Resources Code, § 2100; see also Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15282, subd. (u).)

Responsible Agency Contact Person: BG Heiland

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Date: 9/4/2020

Pedro Villalobos, Chief
State Water Project Analysis Office
Department of Water Resources

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE