

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

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

Project Title: Conveyance of up to 2,000 acre-feet of 2020 Central Valley Project Friant Recirculation Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWPAO #20031)

Location – Specific: From O’Neill Forebay to Kern County Water Agency’s (KCWA) turnout(s) located within Reaches 10A through 13B of the California Aqueduct

Location – County: Kern County

Description of Activity: The Department of Water Resources (DWR) will convey up to 2,000 acre-feet of 2020 Central Valley Project (CVP) Friant Recirculation water (Non-Project Water) to KCWA, on behalf of its member unit, Belridge Water Storage District (Belridge). This Non-Project Water was acquired by Belridge from Tulare Irrigation District, a Friant Division CVP contractor. The United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will make the Non-Project Water available at O’Neill Forebay for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA’s service area for use within the CVP place of use by February 28,2021.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity: KCWA (lead agency), DWR (responsible agency), Reclamation

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: 9/25/2020
Pedro Villalobos, Chief
State Water Project Analysis Office
Department of Water Resources Governor’s Office of Planning & Research

Sep 28 2020

Date received for filing by OPR: _____ **STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**