

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

<p>TO: Office of Planning and Research 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814 state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov</p> <hr/> <p>Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Los Angeles County 12400 E. Imperial Highway, Room 2001 Norwalk, CA 90650</p> <hr/> <p>County Clerk and Recorder Ventura County 800 S. Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009</p>	<p>FROM: Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road Santa Clarita, CA 91350</p>
<p>1. Activity Title:</p>	<p>Approval of a resolution (“Resolution”) authorizing (1) the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (“Agency”) to participate in the proposed Delta Conveyance Project; (2) the Agency’s general manager to enter into a funding agreement for environmental planning costs relating to the Delta Conveyance Project; and (3) the Agency to enter into the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority joint powers agreement.</p>
<p>2. Lead agency and applicant:</p>	<p>Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency</p>
<p>3. Activity Location:</p>	<p>The Resolution and the activity it approved has no specific location as it does not entail construction, development, or any other activity that could potentially result in a significant environmental impact.</p> <p>The Resolution does not in any way approve or commit the Agency to a Delta Conveyance Project, which the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) is still analyzing and considering. DWR anticipates that, if approved, a future Delta Conveyance facility might span portions of Sacramento, Yolo, San Joaquin, Contra Costa, and/or Solano counties.</p>
<p>4. Description of nature, purpose, and beneficiaries of Activity:</p>	<p>On November 17, 2020, the Agency approved Resolution No. SCV-184. The Resolution authorized the Agency’s General Manager to (1) inform DWR that the Agency desires to participate in the Delta Conveyance Project at a 2.6 percent participation level of the Agency’s Table A amount (the Agency already has a long-term water contract with DWR for the delivery of State Water Project water, and the Resolution does nothing to amend that contract); (2) execute a funding agreement with DWR for environmental planning costs associated with the Delta Conveyance Project; and (3) execute a Joint Powers Agreement to become a member of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (“DCA”). The resolution does not commit the Agency to any current or future project, and it does not entail any construction or other activity that could result in a potential physical change to the environment.</p>

5. Exempt status:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not an approval of a project.	State CEQA Guidelines sections 15060(c)(3), 15378(a), (b)(2)(4)(5)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory exemption.	State CEQA Guidelines section 15262
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Common sense exemption.	State CEQA Guidelines section 15061, subd. (b)(3)
6. Reason why activity was exempt:	<p>The Agency's approval of the Resolution does not qualify as a "project" subject to CEQA because it constitutes (1) continuing administrative or maintenance activities, such as general policy and procedure making; (2) government fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment; and (3) organizational or administrative activities of a public agency that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (State CEQA Guidelines, §§ 15060(c)(3).) Moreover, the approval of the Resolution does not qualify as a "project" because it does not have a potential to result in either a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment. (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15378(a).)</p> <p>Alternatively, the Agency's approval of the Resolution is statutorily exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines section 15262, as the Resolution concerned "feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions [that] the agency ... has not approved, adopted, or funded." (State CEQA Guidelines, § 15262.) Notably, although the Resolution provides for some funding for the environmental planning costs associated with the Delta Conveyance Project, it provides for no funding for the construction of the Delta Conveyance Project, nor does it otherwise commit the Agency to the Delta Conveyance Project.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Agency's approval of the Resolution is exempt from CEQA under the common sense exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b)(3), as it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. None of the exceptions to this exemption identified in CEQA Guidelines § 15300.2 exist here.</p>
7. Public Agency Contact Person:	Rick Vasilopulos
Telephone:	(661) 705-7912

Signature: *Rick Vasilopulos* Date: November 19, 2020

Name: Rick Vasilopulos, Water Resources Planner, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency

Date Received for Filing: \_\_\_\_\_

(Clerk Stamp Here)