

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth St., Rm 113
Sacramento CA, 95814

From: CA Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155-B
Sacramento, CA 95814
Contact: Tony Meyers, (916) 919-7171

Project Title: *Delta Conveyance Program Supplemental Funding Agreements*

Project Applicant: Department of Water Resources

Project Location - Specific: N/A

Project Location (City): N/A

Project Location - County: N/A

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: This action is to execute funding agreements with each of the following agencies: Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7; Alameda County Water District; Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency; Santa Clarita Valley; Coachella Valley Water District; Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency; Desert Water Agency; Kern County Water Agency; Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; Mojave Water Agency; Palmdale Water District; San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District; San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District; San Geronimo Pass Water Agency; San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District; Santa Clara Valley Water District; and Ventura County Watershed Protection District. Each agreement will provide DWR with funding for the environmental review and planning associated with a Delta Conveyance Project. This action is not a "project" as that term is defined in CEQA.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Department of Water Resources

Name of Person or Agency Carrying out Project: Department of Water Resources

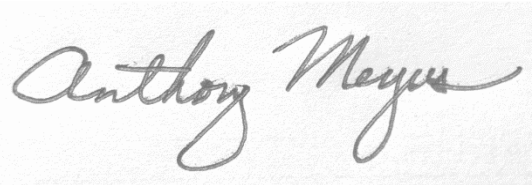
Exempt Status: The action is not a project as defined in Section 15378. In the alternative even if the action was a project, it would be exempt under Statutory Exemptions 15061, subd.(b)(3) (common sense) and 15262, and Categorical Exemption 15306.

Reasons why project is exempt: The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA (Public Resources Code Section 21065, State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378) because the proposed action will not cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and involves continuing administrative or maintenance activities (Section *Delta Conveyance Program Supplemental Funding Agreements Notice of Exemption from CEQA*

15378(b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, the proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Section 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines). Furthermore, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the proposed activity is not subject to CEQA (Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In the alternative, and even if the proposed action was a project under CEQA, the action is statutorily exempt under Section 15262 for feasibility and planning studies and categorically exempt under Section 15306 for information collection. The action is not an adoption of a plan that will have a legally binding effect on later activities, but rather to provide funding for appropriate feasibility and planning studies for possible future actions that DWR has not approved, adopted or funded. The overall activities involve carrying out future studies and environmental analyses for proposed projects that consist of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities qualifying for a Class 6 Categorical Exemption (Section 15306), which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and for which none of the exceptions to the exemptions apply.

Lead Agency Contact Person and Phone Number: Tony Meyers (916) 919-7171

Signed by Lead Agency



Tony Meyers
Executive Director, Delta Conveyance Office
California Department of Water Resources

January 8, 2021
Date

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Authority cited: Sections 21083 and 21110, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 21108, 21152, and 21152.1, Public Resources Code. Revised 2011