

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District Notice of Exemption

To: County Clerk
County of Kings
Kings County Gov. Center
Hanford, CA 93230

State Clearing House
State of California
1400 10th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, 1001 Chase Avenue, Corcoran, CA 93212

Project Title: Common Landowner Transfer of up to 4,497 AF of TLBWSD 2021 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency.

Project Location – Specific: Kern County Water Agency Service Area

Project Location – City: Bakersfield

Project Location – County: Kern

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (District) will transfer up to 4,497 AF of its 2021 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency for Sandridge Partners Inc. who farms in both districts. The transfer will be completed in 2021. This proposed transfer is designed to enable Sandridge Partners Inc. to better manage its respective water supplies. No lands will be fallowed as a result of the transfer and no additional groundwater will be pumped. The lands have been actively farmed in the past.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, Kern County Water Agency, and the California Department of Water Resources.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption (Sec. 15301);
- Statutory Exemption (CA Water Code 1729)

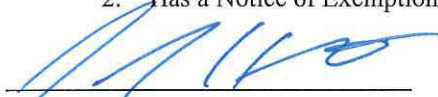
Reasons why project is exempt: The District has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts, because both lands have been actively farmed, no new land has been developed, no additional groundwater will be pumped, and there is no physical change associated with this project. The single year transfer is also exempt from CEQA under Water Code Section 1729. Further, the transfer is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of an existing facility (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

Lead Agency Contact Person: Jacob Westra

Telephone: 559-992-4127

If filed by applicant

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes



Signature

February 17, 2021

Date

General Manager

Title

Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District Finding of Exemption

Project Title: Common Landowner Transfer of up to 4,497 a.f. of TLBWSD 2021 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (TLBWSD) will transfer up to 4,497 a.f. of its 2021 State Water Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) for Sandridge Partners Inc. who farms in both districts. The transfer will be completed in 2021. This proposed transfer is designed to enable both KCWA and TLBWSD water users to better manage their respective water supplies. No lands will be fallowed as a result of the transfer and no additional groundwater will be pumped. The lands have been actively farmed in the past.

Entity or Person Undertaking Project: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District
Jacob Westra
1001 Chase Avenue
Corcoran, CA 93212
559-992-4127

Recommendation: Staff, having undertaken and completed a review of this project for CEQA compliance, has determined that this project does not require further environmental assessment because:

- 1. The proposed action does not constitute a project (Guidelines, section 15378).
- 2. This project is a ministerial project (Guidelines, sections 15369, 15268).
- 3. The project is an emergency project (Guidelines, sections 15269, 15359).
- 4. The project is categorically exempt (Guidelines, Article 19, sections 15300-15329)
A. Applicable Exemption Class: 1
- 5. No foreseeable impacts on the environment (Guidelines, section 15061(b)(3)).
- 6. Statutory Exemption (CA Water Code 1729).

Brief statement of reasons why project is exempt: TLBWSD has determined that there are no foreseeable environmental impacts. The single year transfer is also exempt from CEQA under Water Code Section 1729. Further, the transfer is categorically exempt under CEQA since it involves the use and operation of an existing facility (CEQA Guidelines 15301).

Name of Lead Agency: Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District

Date: February 17, 2021



Jacob Westra, General Manager