

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: Patterson Irrigation District: Water Transfer to the South Valley Water Resources Authority
 Lead Agency: Patterson Irrigation District Contact Person: Vince Lucchesi, General Manager
 Mailing Address: 948 Orange Avenue Phone: (209) 892-6233
 City: Patterson Zip: 95363 County: Stanislaus

Project Location: County: Kings / Kern / Stanislaus City/Nearest Community: Patterson
 Cross Streets: none Zip Code: 95363
 Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): _____ ° _____ ' _____ " N / _____ ° _____ ' _____ " W Total Acres: _____
 Assessor's Parcel No.: multiple Section: _____ Twp.: _____ Range: _____ Base: _____
 Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: NA Waterways: _____
 Airports: NA Railways: NA Schools: NA

Document Type:
 CEQA: NOP Draft EIR NEPA: NOI Other: Joint Document
 Early Cons Supplement/Subsequent EIR EA Final Document
 Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) _____ Draft EIS Other: _____
 Mit Neg Dec Other: _____ FONSI _____

Local Action Type:
 General Plan Update Specific Plan Rezone Annexation
 General Plan Amendment Master Plan Prezone Redevelopment
 General Plan Element Planned Unit Development Use Permit Coastal Permit
 Community Plan Site Plan Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) Other: Water Transfer

Development Type:
 Residential: Units _____ Acres _____ Transportation: Type _____
 Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ Mining: Mineral _____
 Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ Power: Type _____ MW _____
 Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____
 Educational: _____ Hazardous Waste: Type _____
 Recreational: _____ Other: _____
 Water Facilities: Type Water Transfer MGD _____

Project Issues Discussed in Document:
 Aesthetic/Visual Fiscal Recreation/Parks Vegetation
 Agricultural Land Flood Plain/Flooding Schools/Universities Water Quality
 Air Quality Forest Land/Fire Hazard Septic Systems Water Supply/Groundwater
 Archeological/Historical Geologic/Seismic Sewer Capacity Wetland/Riparian
 Biological Resources Minerals Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading Growth Inducement
 Coastal Zone Noise Solid Waste Land Use
 Drainage/Absorption Population/Housing Balance Toxic/Hazardous Cumulative Effects
 Economic/Jobs Public Services/Facilities Traffic/Circulation Other: None

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:
 Please see attached

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)
 Please see attached

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with and "X".
 If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date February 23, 2021 Ending Date March 23, 2021

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Provost & Pritchard</u>	Applicant: <u>Patterson Irrigation District</u>
Address: <u>1800 30th Street</u>	Address: <u>948 Orange Avenue</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Bakersfield, CA 93301</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Patterson, California 95363</u>
Contact: <u>Dena Giacomini</u>	Phone: <u>(209) 892-6233</u>
Phone: <u>661-616-5900</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  Date: 6/2/16/2021

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

Project Location

PID is located near the City of Patterson, in Stanislaus County, California along San Joaquin River between the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers. PID's service area extends about 8 miles long (east-west) and three miles wide (north-south). PID encompasses approximately 12,660 acres, most of which is irrigated. PID includes approximately 643 landowners and over 400 water users. Irrigated lands served by PID include a variety of orchards and row crops. PID receives water from the San Joaquin River and the Delta Mendota Canal (DMC).

SVWRA is a joint powers authority that provides a mechanism for specific activities to be undertaken by its thirteen (13) public agency members and can include, but not limited to, water supply, flood protection, and watershed management in Kings and Kern Counties covering about 1,300 square miles. Collectively, the SVWRA districts are geographically situated in the lower San Joaquin Valley (Valley), part of the Great Central Valley of California. The Great Central Valley is bordered by the Sierra Nevada Mountain Ranges to the east, the Coast Ranges to the west, the Klamath Mountains and Cascade Range to the north, and the Tehachapi Range to the south.

Participating members of the SVWRA that are located within Kern County receive annual allocations of water from the SWP pursuant to their water service contracts with the Kern County Water Agency (KCWA); KCWA contracts directly with DWR for the SWP supply. Dudley Ridge Water District (DRWD), the participating SVWRA member located in Kings County, contracts directly with DWR for SWP water. In addition, each of the members of the SVWRA manage local groundwater and surface water resources and/or participate in local/regional groundwater storage programs.

PVWD is a California Water District located in western Fresno County, southeast of the City of Coalinga that includes approximately 38,000 total acres of which 30,000 acres are rated as farmable. PVWD has started importing surface supplies of water to help offset over drafting of its groundwater supply. SVWRA is agreeable to deliver up to 2,000 AF/Y of the PID water to agricultural lands within PVWD. The water would be delivered from the terminus of the San Luis Canal to PVWD through the Coalinga Canal under a pending update to Exhibit C of the existing Warren Act Contract for PVWD and SVWRA.

Latitude and Longitude

The centroid of each SVWRA member district participating in the Project and PVWD is identified in **Table 1** below.

Table 1. Latitude and Longitude in Decimal Degrees of Each Participating District

Member	Latitude	Longitude
Belridge Water Storage District	35.519172° N	-119.720072° W
Berrenda Mesa Water District	35.662932° N	-119.945316° W
Cawelo Water District	35.568376° N	-119.150173° W
Dudley Ridge Water District	35.881798° N	-119.868578° W
Lost Hills Water District	35.724168° N	-119.766801° W
Pleasant Valley Water District	36.113599° N	-120.243027° W
Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District	35.382899° N	-119.252035° W
Semitropic Water Storage District	35.606200° N	-119.495446° W
Tejon-Castac Water District	34.856690° N	-118.807712° W
Wheeler Ridge- Maricopa Water Storage District	35.038432° N	-119.016011° W

Description of Project

The Project consists of a five (5) year water transfer agreement (beginning 2021) between PID and the SVWRA to transfer up to 10,000 AF/Y of surface water conveyed to SVWRA participants; up to 2,000 AF/Y of the SVWRA deliveries may be delivered to PVWD. The water to be transferred would be

comprised of PID's pre-1914 appropriative water right from the San Joaquin River or Replacement Water, then conveyed through existing federal facilities (via an existing Warren Act Contract) to existing SWP facilities for delivery, again through existing conveyances to the SVWRA participants. A current water service contract exists. An update to Exhibit C of the existing contract to address delivery from the Coalinga Canal turnouts (at milepost 14.55 and 14.57) and the California Aqueduct would be needed to be secured prior to any water being transfer to PVWD and SVRWA. PID has entered into similar agreements in the past and this Project is a continuation of existing water transfer activities that have been ongoing between PID and various water purveyors since 2010. Due to aggressive conservation practices and the use of reclaimed water, PID has temporarily developed water supplies in excess of the current water demands within its service boundaries. As a result, PID has excess water that can be transferred, through Water Transfer Agreements to various water districts in the San Joaquin Valley that may have water shortages. Also, due to reduced water supply allocation from the SWP, members of the SVWRA have suffered water shortages in past years and anticipates that this trend will continue. For more than the past decade, farmed lands within SVWRA and PVWD have regularly sought replacement supplies to offset the supply reductions from the SWP. Water transferred due to the Project would be transferred from PID to lands within the SVWRA and PVWD to historically cultivated, farmed lands; no new lands would be brought into cultivation as a result of the Project.

Project activities do not include any new infrastructure, conveyance facilities, construction, or alteration of lands. Water transfers would be provided to SVWRA members via existing turnouts along the California Aqueduct from Reach 8D, 9, 10A, 11B, 12D, 12E, 13B, 14A, 14B, 14C, 15A, 16A, and 17E, and through the turnout from Reach 31A of the Coastal Branch of the California Aqueduct. Water would be provided to PVWD through the Coalinga Canal.

The District proposes a five (5) year Water Transfer Agreement between the District and the SVWRA to transfer up to 50,000 acre-feet of water to SVWRA (Project). The water to be transferred is comprised of pre-1914 water right from the San Joaquin River held by the District.

The District also obtains surface water from the Central Valley Project (CVP) pursuant to a contract with the Reclamation entitled "Contract between the United States and Patterson Irrigation District Providing for Project Water Service" dated February 28, 2005, Contract No. 14-06-200-3598 A-LTR1 (District Contract), pursuant to which the District obtains both project water from the CVP and replacement water, replacing its diminished San Joaquin River supplies due to the construction of Friant Dam and the Friant-Kern and Madera Canals.

SVWRA is a California public entity formed and existing pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Gov't Code § 6500, et seq.) and comprised of thirteen (13) public agency general members located in Kings and Kern Counties, and nine (9) of those agencies have entered into an agreement to participate in a multi-year water transfer agreement with the District. The nine (9) public agencies participating in the District transfer are named, along with their State Water Project (SWP) amounts in acre-feet: Belridge Water Storage District (121,508), Berrenda Mesa Water District (92,600), Cawelo Water District 38,200, Dudley Ridge Water District (41,350), Lost Hills Water District (119,110), Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (29,900), Semitropic Water Storage District (155,000), Tejon-Castaic Water District (5,278), Wheeler Ridge- Maricopa Water Storage District (197,008).

RTS Agri Business, LLC., is a landowner that farms both in SVWRA District and Pleasant Valley Water District. An additional 2,000 acre-feet of water per year would be delivered to RTS Agri Business, LLC., lands located in the Pleasant Valley Water District

Due to aggressive conservation practices and the use of reclaimed water, the District has temporarily developed water supplies more than the demands within its service boundaries. As a result, the District has excess water that can be transferred, through water transfer programs with various water districts that may have water shortages. The District has entered into similar agreements in the past with other water districts. This Project, between the District and the participating members of SVWRA is merely a continuation of the current the District practices that has been in place since 2010. Because of continued reduced water supply

allocations from the SWP, SVWRA has suffered water shortages in past years and anticipates that this trend will continue. For more than the past decade, farmed lands within the SVWRA districts have regularly sought replacement supplies to offset the supply reductions from the SWP. Water transferred due to the Project would be transferred from the District to lands within the participating members of the SVWRA to historically cultivated, farmed lands; no new lands would be brought into cultivation as a result of the Project.

The the District Board of Directors has found and determined that the District may be able to make a portion of its water supply available to SVWRA for the next five (5) years through conservation and the District projects and improvements. Other than extremely dry years, a minimum of 5,000 acre-feet (AF) of the District's water is proposed to be made available for transfer and is expected to be surplus to the needs of the District's customers for that five-year period. the District is willing to modify the releases and diversions from its facilities and operations of its delivery systems to make a portion of its water supplies available for transfer to SVWRA participants.