

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 7

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*Making Conservation
a California Way of Life*

September 10, 2021

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

September 10 2021**STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**

Mr. Peter Thompson II
Palmdale Water District
2029 East Avenue Q
Palmdale, CA 93550

RE: Palmdale Water District Proposed Multi-
Year Transfer To Kern County Water
Agency and Dudley Ridge Water District
SCH # 2021080229
Vic. LA-N/A
GTS # Multiple-2021-00273-ND

Dear Mr. Thompson II:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced ND. In the effort to fund future local water reliability projects, Palmdale Water District (PWD) has negotiated a multi-year transfer of a portion of its annual allocation of SWP Table A water above its total annual water demand to five water districts.

The mission of Caltrans is to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment. Senate Bill 743 (2013) has codified into CEQA law and mandated that CEQA review of transportation impacts of proposed development be modified by using Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) as the primary metric in identifying transportation impacts for all future development projects. You may reference the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) for more information:

<http://opr.ca.gov/ceqa/updates/guidelines/>

As a reminder, VMT is the standard transportation analysis metric in CEQA for land use projects after July 1, 2020, which is the statewide implementation date.

Implementation of the Proposed Project would not include the construction of any new facilities or modification of existing district facilities. Although the Proposed Project could result in a minor increase in maintenance activities for Westside Districts' facilities pumping more water that is transferred by PWD, the increase would not substantially affect traffic volumes and would not conflict with a program plan, ordinance or policy.

Mr. Peter Thompson II
September 10, 2021
Page 2 of 2

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Alan Lin, the project coordinator, at (213) 269-1124 and refer to GTS # Multiple-2021-00273AL-ND.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Miya Edmonson".

MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

email: State Clearinghouse