

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning & Research
PO Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Mojave Water Agency
13846 Conference Center Dr.
Apple Valley, CA 92307

To: San Bernardino County Clerk's Office
385 N. Arrowhead Ave., 2nd Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92415

To: Kings County Clerk's Office
1400 W. Lacey Blvd.
Hanford, CA 93230

Project Title: Transfer of Article 56 Carryover Water from Mojave Water Agency to County of Kings.

Location -- Specific: Mojave Water Agency ("MWA") is a State Water Project ("SWP") contractor located in San Bernardino County. The County of Kings ("Kings" or "County") is a SWP contractor located in Kings County. The California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") is headquartered in Sacramento, California. The SWP includes facilities located throughout the State of California.

Location -- County: San Bernardino and Kings Counties.

Description of Activity: MWA and County are SWP Contractors that receive imported water deliveries from the SWP; each has a water supply contract with DWR for water from the SWP. Given the 2021 SWP allocation of only 5% and an initial 2022 SWP allocation of only minimum human health and safety deliveries, County is anticipating the need of additional surface water in 2022 to meet its projected demands. MWA has a portion of its Article 56 Carryover Water available for transfer to County for delivery to Kettleman City, a disadvantaged community, in 2022. Under this agreement, MWA will make available 235 acre-feet of MWA's Article 56 Carryover Water for transfer to County in 2022. Water will be delivered using existing SWP facilities, and in a manner similar to other deliveries from the SWP.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity: The agreement for the Water Transfer will be signed by MWA and County and is subject to approval by DWR.

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- 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.** CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(b) (Use of Existing Facilities).
- Statutory Exemption.**

Reasons why activity is exempt: Because all of the water delivered to County from MWA

pursuant to this Transfer will be delivered through existing facilities, without the construction of additional facilities to affect such deliveries, the transfer of water described herein constitutes a project that is exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 15301(b) (Use of Existing Facilities) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Adnan Anabtawi, Imported Water and Engineering Manager
Tel : (760) 946-7059

Signature:  **Title:** General Manager **Date:** 1/13/2022
Allison Febbo