

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
Post Office Box 3044, Room 113
Sacramento, California 95812-3044

From: Central Coast Water Authority
255 Industrial Way
Buellton, CA 93427

Clerk of the Board
County of Santa Barbara
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Clerk of the Board
San Bernardino County
385 N Arrowhead Ave # 2
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Project Title: Central Coast Water Authority and Mojave Water Agency 2022 Transfer of Table A Water

Location – Specific: Existing State Water Project (SWP) facilities to existing turnouts in Santa Barbara and San Bernardino Counties. The SWP includes facilities located throughout the State of California. The SWP is owned and operated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), headquartered in Sacramento, California. Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District contracts with DWR for the delivery of SWP water to Santa Barbara County (SWP Contract). The Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) has assumed responsibility for the SWP Contract. CCWA is headquartered in Santa Barbara County and CCWA's service area is located in Santa Barbara County. The Mojave Water Agency (MWA) contracts with DWR for the delivery of SWP water to San Bernardino County. MWA is headquartered in Apple Valley and MWA's service area is located in San Bernardino County.

Location – County: Santa Barbara and San Bernardino Counties

Description of Activity: Due to prolonged drought conditions and low SWP "Table A Amount" for 2022, CCWA currently needs additional water supplies to supplement its 2022 supplies. MWA will make available 1,500 acre-feet (AF) of MWA's 2022 Annual Table A Amount, as that term is defined by the State Water Contract, for transfer to CCWA. CCWA will pay MWA a rate of \$2,000 for every AF of water purchased, which will occur on execution of an agreement with DWR which incorporates the terms and conditions of the transfer. The point of delivery for the transfer is Banks Pumping Plant, a DWR facility, and all water delivered to CCWA shall be used entirely within CCWA's service area.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity: Central Coast Water Authority. Other approving agencies include: California Department of Water Resources, Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and Mojave Water Agency.

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Declared Emergency
- Emergency Project
- Categorical Exemption
- Statutory Exemption (Not a Project Under CEQA)

Reasons why activity is exempt:

- a. The transfer will facilitate the delivery of SWP water from one SWP contractor to another, using only existing DWR facilities and existing facilities in Santa Barbara and San Bernardino Counties and is intended to meet existing uses of water and would not support new development or a change in land use. (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15061(b)(2), 15061(b)(3), 15301.)
- b. The transfer is entirely within the authorized SWP place of use.
- c. None of the exceptions to use of an exemption set forth in CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply and the Transfer will not have a significant impact on the environment.

Agency Contact Person: Ray Stokes

Telephone: (805) 688-2292

Signature:

Ray Stokes

Date: 5-26-22

Title: Executive Director, Central Coast Water Authority

Date received for filing OPR: _____