

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

<b>To:</b>	Office of Planning and Research Post Office Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812	<b>From:</b>	Department of Water Resources Water Management 1516 9 <sup>th</sup> Street Sacramento, California 95814
<b>Project Title</b>	A Change in Point of Delivery of a Portion of Kern County Water Agency's State Water Project Table A Water (SWP #22025).		
<b>Location- Specific</b>	From Delta to Westlands Water District's turnouts in Reaches 4 through 7 of the California Aqueduct		
<b>Location- County</b>	Fresno and Kern Counties		
<b>Description of Activity</b>	<p>Westlands Water District (WWD) has acquired up to 1,500 acre-feet of pre-1914 Kings River water from Fresno Irrigation District (Fresno ID). Because WWD has no way of directly receiving this water, Kern-Tulare Water District (Kern-Tulare), WWD, and Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) have proposed to help facilitate the transfer of this water through the following three-way exchange:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will deliver up to 1,500 acre-feet of Fresno ID's pre-1914 Kings River water to Kern-Tulare via the Friant-Kern Canal.</li> <li>2) In exchange for Fresno ID's pre-1914 Kings River water, Kern-Tulare will transfer an equal amount of its banked Central Valley Project (CVP) water within Kern County to KCWA for use in KCWA's service area.</li> <li>3) In exchange for Kern-Tulare's banked CVP water, DWR will deliver an equal amount of KCWA's 2022 Table A water to WWD via the California Aqueduct.</li> </ol> <p>SWP #22025 sets forth the terms and conditions for the change in point of delivery of up to 1,500 acre-feet of KCWA's 2022 Table A Water to WWD's turnouts within Reaches 4 through 7 of the California Aqueduct by December 31, 2022. The delivery of SWP water for use within the CVP place of use under this Agreement was approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on July 22, 2022.</p>		
<b>Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity</b>	KCWA (lead agency), Kern-Tulare, WWD, Reclamation, and DWR (responsible agency)		
<b>Exempt Status</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial <input type="checkbox"/> Declared Emergency <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Categorical Exemption: Class 1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15301,		

	existing facility <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729
<b>Reasons why activity is exempt</b>	<p>a. No construction is required to implement the proposed delivery.</p> <p>b. The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed change in points of delivery.</p> <p>c. There will be no change in land use.</p> <p>d. On May 11, 2022, DWR filed a petition with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) requesting a temporary change under Water Code Section 1725, et seq, for the approval of the consolidation of SWP and CVP places of use. In accordance with Water Code Section 1729, temporary changes filed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 10.5, Article 1 of the Water Code (Temporary Changes) are exempt from the requirements of CEQA.</p>
<b>Responsible Agency Contact Person</b>	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778

Signature:  <i>John Leahigh</i> _____ John Leahigh State Water Project Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance Department of Water Resources	Date:  10/24/2022 _____
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