

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Appendix E

- To:**
- Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044
 - County Clerk/County Recorder
County of Fresno
P.O. Box 766
Fresno, CA 93712
 - County Clerk/County Recorder
County of Kings
County Government Center
1400 West Lacey Boulevard
Hanford, CA 93230
- From:** Westlands Water District
P.O. Box 6056
Fresno, CA 93703

Project Title: Execution of a Flood Control Agreement with the Kings River Water Association.

Project Applicant: Westlands Water District

Project Location – Specific: Fresno and Kings Counties within the boundaries of Westlands Water District.

Project Location – City: N/A

Project Location – County: Fresno and Kings

Description of Project:

From time to time, significant runoff from the Kings River results in the temporary availability of Kings River water that in exceeds Kings River Water Association (“KRWA”) member demands, also known as “Flood Water”. The KRWA could declare the King River Flood Flows in 2023. KRWA offered to execute a 2023 Flood Control Agreement with the District.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Westlands Water District, United States Bureau of Reclamation.

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Westlands Water District.

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 Sec. § 15301; § 15304);
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number; § 15261

Reasons why project is exempt:

Execution of the agreement is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) as provided in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, Section 15261 because the action continues ongoing conveyance funded and fully operational prior to November 23, 1970, storage, receipt and delivery of water supplies developed in previous compliance with and/or found to be exempt from the CEQA will continue, and it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed actions

in question may have a significant effect on the environment; with no expansion of service and no new facilities constructed because the District will deliver the water received to lands within the District's boundaries for beneficial use on eligible land already in production and through existing facilities.

Execution of the agreement is categorically exempt from compliance with the CEQA as provided in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, with reference to Sections 15301 and 15304, because it merely provides for continued operation of existing facilities, will involve only minor alterations to land already developed and maintained for agricultural purposes.


Lead Agency

Contact Person: Russ Freeman

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (559) 241-6241

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? YES NO

Signature:  Date: 3/16/23 Title: Deputy General Manager Resources

Signed by Lead Agency Signed by Applicant

Authority cited: Sections 21083, Public Resources Code.

Date Received for filing at OPR: _____

Reference: Sections 21108(b), 21152(b), Public Resources Code.