

**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
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<b>Project Title</b>	Conveyance of Non-Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWP #23020)
<b>Location- Specific</b>	From O'Neill Forebay to Kern County Water Agency's turnout(s) in Reaches 12E and/or 13B of the California Aqueduct
<b>Location- County</b>	Kern County
<b>Description of Activity</b>	Conveyance of up to 5,000 acre-feet of Westlands Water District's 2021-2023 Rescheduled Central Valley Project (CVP) water and/or CVP water (Non-Project Water) to Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) under Article 55 of KCWA's Water Supply Contract with DWR. This Non-Project Water will be delivered to the Kern Water Bank and/or Belridge Water Storage District, a member unit of KCWA, which lie within the CVP place of use. This Non-Project Water will be made available by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to DWR at O'Neill Forebay for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA's service area within the CVP place of use by February 28, 2024.
<b>Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity</b>	KCWA (lead agency), DWR (responsible agency), Reclamation
<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 type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729
<b>Reasons why activity is exempt</b>	a. State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors. b. The project is a water management operation using only existing facilities. c. The project will not support new development or a change in land use. d. The project does not establish a new permanent source of water supply.
<b>Responsible Agency Contact Person</b>	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778

Signature:

*John Leahigh*

John Leahigh  
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Division of Operations and Maintenance  
State Water Project

Date:

5/30/2023