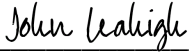


NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:	Office of Planning and Research Post Office Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812	From:	Department of Water Resources Water Management 1516 9 th Street Sacramento, California 95814
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Project Title	Conveyance of Non-Project Water to San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SWP #23008)
Location- Specific	From Reach 12E of the California Aqueduct to Reaches 4A and/or 4B of California Aqueduct's East Branch Extension
Location- County	Kern, Los Angeles, and Riverside Counties
Description of Activity	Conveyance of up to 1,700 acre-feet of Non-Project Water to San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA). This Non-Project Water is "Nickel Water" located in Kern County. Following a series of four purchase agreements, executed between 2001-2017, Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) acquired the rights to take annual delivery of 1,700 acre-feet of "Nickel Water." SGPWA subsequently purchased the 1,700 acre-feet of "Nickel Water" annually from AVEK for years 2017 through 2036, as described in the July 7, 2017, Water Supply Agreement between SGPWA and AVEK. Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) will make the Non-Project Water available in Reach 12E of the California Aqueduct for subsequent delivery by DWR to SGPWA's service area. The conveyance of the Non-Project Water to SGPWA shall be completed by December 31, 2023.
Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity	SGPWA (Lead Agency), AVEK, KCWA, and DWR (Responsible Agency)
Exempt Status	<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
Reasons why activity is exempt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors. The project is a water management operation using only existing facilities. The project will not support new development or a change in land use. The project does not establish a new permanent source of water supply.

Responsible Agency Contact Person	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778
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Signature:  _____ John Leahigh Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project	Date: 8/29/2023 _____
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