

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:	Office of Planning and Research Post Office Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812	From:	Department of Water Resources Water Management P.O BOX 942836 Sacramento, California 94236-0001
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Project Title	Conveyance of Non-Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWP #23037)
Location- Specific	From O'Neill Forebay to Kern County Water Agency's (KCWA) turnout(s) in Reaches 9 through 16A of the California Aqueduct and Reach 31A of the California Aqueduct's Coastal Branch
Location- County	Kern County
Description of Activity	SWP #23037 is for the conveyance of up to 25,000 acre-feet of Lower Tule River Irrigation District and Pixley Irrigation District's 2023 Central Valley Project water (Non-Project Water) to KCWA under Article 55 of KCWA's Water Supply Contract with DWR. This Non-Project Water, acquired by Homer LLC, a landowner within KCWA's service area, will be delivered to the following member units of KCWA: Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Semitropic Water Storage District, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, and/or Belridge Water Storage District. 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 for use in the CVP place of use by February 29, 2024.
Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity	KCWA (lead agency), DWR (responsible agency), Reclamation
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	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.
Responsible Agency Contact Person	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778

Signature:

John Leahigh

John Leahigh
Assistant Division Manager, Water Management
Division of Operations and Maintenance
State Water Project

Date:

9/29/2023
