

**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 P.O. BOX 942836 Sacramento, California 95814
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<b>Project Title</b>	Transfer of up to 617 acre-feet of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District's 2024 State Water Project Table A Water to Empire West Side Irrigation District (SWP #24007)
<b>Location- Specific</b>	From the Delta to Empire West Side Irrigation District's (Empire's) turnout(s) at Reach 8C of the California Aqueduct.
<b>Location- County</b>	Kings County
<b>Description of Activity</b>	SWP Agreement #24007 provides for a non-permanent transfer of up to 617 acre-feet of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District's (Tulare's) 2024 State Water Project Table A water to Empire. The transfer of water shall be completed by December 31, 2024 for use in Empire's service area.
<b>Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity</b>	Tulare (lead agency); Empire and DWR (responsible agencies)
<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 Facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729
<b>Reasons why activity is exempt</b>	<p>a. SWP long-term water supply contracts include provisions for delivery within SWP place of use, including transfers between SWP contractors.</p> <p>b. No construction is required to implement the proposed delivery.</p> <p>c. The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed delivery.</p> <p>d. There will be no change in land use.</p>
<b>Responsible Agency Contact Person</b>	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778
Signature:  <i>John Leahigh</i> _____ John Leahigh Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project	Date:  2/14/2024 _____