

Public Notice  
Notice of Exemption



**To:** Santa Clara County  
Clerk Recorder's Office,  
Business Division  
110 West Tasman Drive, First Floor  
San Jose, CA 95134

**From:** Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Environmental Planning Unit  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose, CA 95118-3686  
Telephone (408) 265-2600

Kern County Clerk  
1115 Truxtun Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Merced County Recorder  
2222 M Street  
Merced, CA 95340

State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Project Title:** Water Purchase and Water Transfer Agreement Between Kern County Water Agency/Belridge Water Storage District/ Westside Mutual Water Company and Santa Clara Valley Water District

**Project Location-Specific:** Various

**Project Location-City:** Various

**Project Location-County:** Santa Clara, Kern, and Merced

**Project Purpose:** Valley Water seeks to execute the Water Purchase and Water Transfer Agreement Between Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) / Belridge Water Storage District (Belridge) / Westside Mutual Water Company (Westside) and Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) (Agreement). The Agreement would allow Valley Water to transfer up to 20,000 acre-feet of 2024 State Water Project (SWP) Table A and / or Article 56 water supplies stored in San Luis Reservoir with KCWA in 2024. See map, Attachment 1.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)

**Name of Agency or Person Carrying Out Project:** Valley Water

**Exempt Status:** (check one)

- Ministerial [§21080(b)(1); 15268]
- Declared Emergency [§21080(b)(3); 15269(a)]
- Emergency Project [§21080(b)(c); 15269(b)(c)]
- Categorical Exemptions [§15301, Existing Facilities]
- Statutory Exemptions

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** All conveyance of water that may occur under the Agreement would utilize existing water conveyance and storage facilities without exceeding their capacities. The Project would not involve any construction of new or alteration of existing facilities. Transfer of SWP water from Valley Water to KCWA would not alter Valley Water's existing annual SWP water allocations. Delivery of water under the Agreement would entail the continued operation of existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. Therefore, the Project meets the requirements of CEQA Guidelines §15301 and is categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA.

CEQA Guidelines §15301 states that:

“Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use.”

None of the conditions noted under the CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 exist.

**Description of Project:** The Project consists of the execution of an Agreement between Valley Water and Belridge/Westside. This Agreement provides for the transfer of a minimum of 10,000 AF and up to 20,000 acre-feet (AF) of State Water Project (SWP) Table A and/or Article 56 water from Valley Water to Belridge/Westside in 2024. Under the terms of the Agreement, Belridge/Westside will pay Valley Water for water ultimately delivered to KCWA. Westside has members that are landowners in Belridge’s service area and contract with Belridge for SWP water. Belridge is a member unit of KCWA, and therefore, can receive SWP water from Valley Water through KCWA. Valley Water will coordinate with DWR to deliver the mutually agreed upon volume to KCWA, and KCWA will be responsible for delivery of that water to Belridge/Westside. Valley Water completed a similar transfer with Belridge/Westside in 2023.

**Agency Contact Person:** Michael F. Coleman, AICP Environmental Planner, Valley Water

**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (408) 630-3096

Signature:



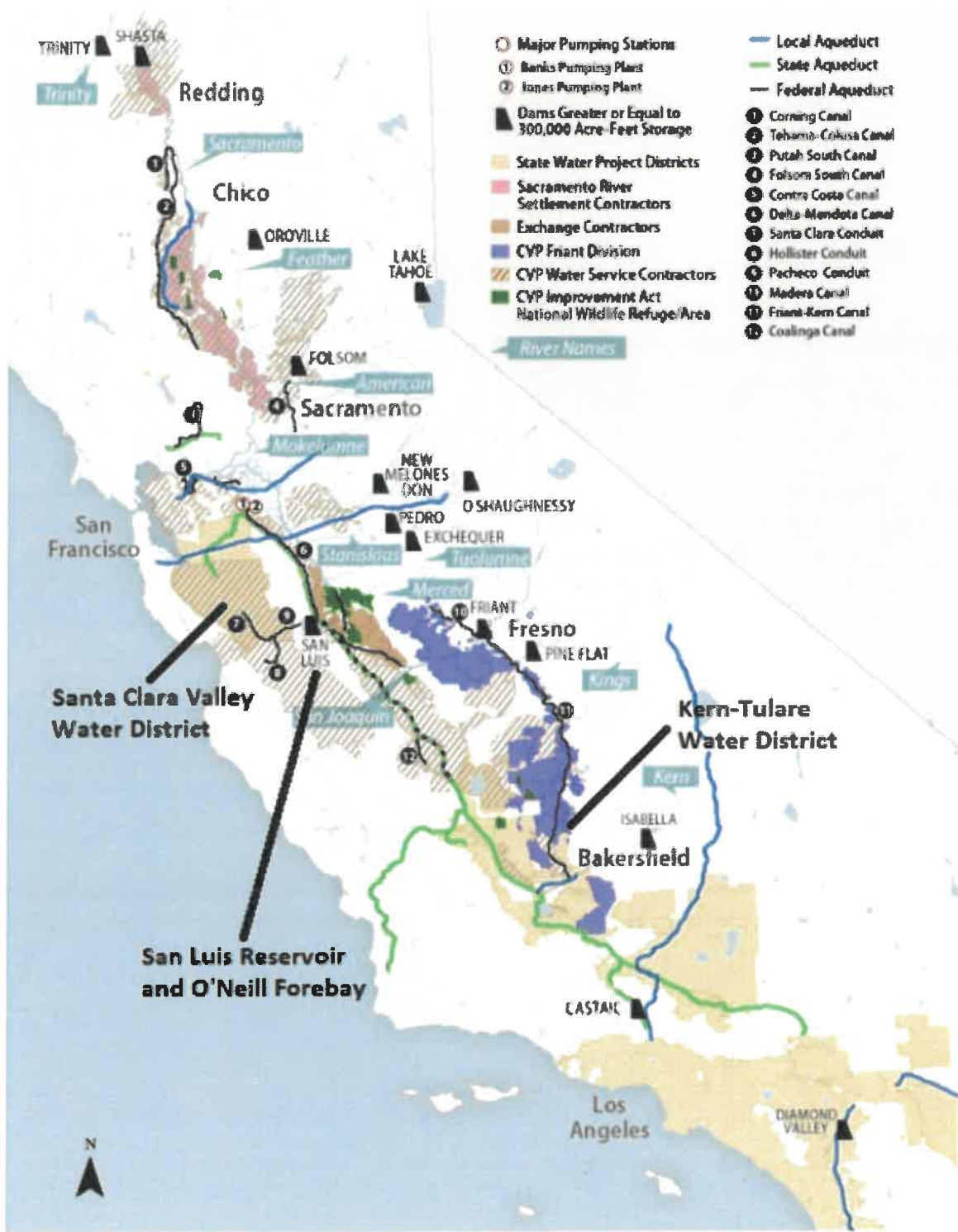
Date:

8-19-2024

Title: Michael F. Coleman, AICP  
Environmental Planner

cc: CEQA Administrative Record

Attachment 1: Project Map



- Major Pumping Stations
- ① Banks Pumping Plant
- ② Jones Pumping Plant
- ▲ Dams Greater or Equal to 300,000 Acre-Feet Storage
- State Water Project Districts
- Sacramento River Settlement Contractors
- Exchange Contractors
- CVP Friant Division
- CVP Water Service Contractors
- CVP Improvement Act National Wildlife Refuge/Area

- Local Aqueduct
- State Aqueduct
- Federal Aqueduct
- ① Corning Canal
- ② Tehama-Colusa Canal
- ③ Putah South Canal
- ④ Folsom South Canal
- ⑤ Contra Costa Canal
- ⑥ Delta-Mendota Canal
- ⑦ Santa Clara Conduit
- ⑧ Hollister Conduit
- ⑨ Pacheco Conduit
- ⑩ Madera Canal
- ⑪ Friant-Kern Canal
- ⑫ Coalinga Canal

← River Names

