

**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 94236-0001
------------	---	--------------	--

<b>Project Title</b>	Conveyance of Non-Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWP #24019)
<b>Location- Specific</b>	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
<b>Location- County</b>	Kern and Tulare Counties
<b>Description of Activity</b>	SWP #24019 is for the conveyance of up to 50,000 acre-feet of Lower Tule River Irrigation District’s and Pixley Irrigation District’s 2024 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, Lost Hills Water 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 28, 2025.
<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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors.</li> <li>The project is a water management operation using only existing facilities.</li> <li>The project will not support new development or a change in land use.</li> <li>The project does not establish a new permanent source of water supply.</li> </ol>

<b>Responsible Agency Contact Person</b>	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778
--	--

Signature: <i>Molly White</i> _____ Molly White Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project	Date: 10/22/2024 _____
---	------------------------------