

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Office of Planning and Research
Post Office Box 3044
Sacramento, California 95812

From: Department of Water Resources
State Water Project Analysis Office
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title: Conveyance of up to 10,000 acre-feet of 2019 Central Valley Project Friant Recirculation Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWPAO #19020).

Location – Specific: From O'Neill Forebay to California Aqueduct Reaches 12E through 16A.

Location – County: Kern County

Description of Activity: The Department of Water Resources (DWR) will convey up to 10,000 acre-feet of 2019 Central Valley Project (CVP) Friant Recirculation water (Non-Project Water) to Kern County Water Agency (KCWA), on behalf of Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (WRMWS), under Article 55 of KCWA's long-term Water Supply Contract with DWR. This Non-Project Water, acquired from Friant contractor San Luis District will be made available by the United States Bureau of Reclamation at O'Neill Forebay for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA's turnout(s). The delivery of water under this agreement shall be completed by February 28, 2020 and used within WRMWS's CVP place of use.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity: WRMWS (lead agency), KCWA, and DWR (responsible agency)

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial
- Declared Emergency
- Emergency Project
- Categorical Exemption: Class 1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, existing facility
- Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729

Reason 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. No construction is required to implement the proposed delivery.
- c. The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed change in points of delivery.
- d. There will be no change in land use.

Responsible Agency Contact Person: David Rizzardo **Telephone:** 916-653-9593

Signature: 

Date: 8/6/2019

Pedro Villalobos, Chief
State Water Project Analysis Office
Department of Water Resources
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

AUG 06 2019

Date received for filing by OPR: _____ **STATE CLEARINGHOUSE**