

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 30,000 acre-feet of Westlands Water District's 2019 Central Valley Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWPAO #19028).

Location -- Specific: From the Delta to Reaches 10A through 16A of the California Aqueduct.

Location -- County: Kern County

Description of Activity: California Department of Water Resources (DWR) will convey up to 30,000 acre-feet of Westlands Water District's 2019 Central Valley Project (CVP) water supplies to Kern County Water Agency (KCWA) on behalf of its member units, Semitropic Water Storage District and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District. The United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will make the CVP water available to DWR at O'Neill Forebay for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA's turnouts in Reaches 10A through 16A of the California Aqueduct through February 29, 2020, in accordance with Article 55 of KCWA's Water Supply Contract with DWR.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity: Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District (lead agency) and DWR (responsible agency).

Exempt Status:

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

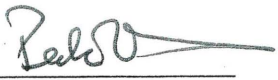
Reasons why activity is exempt:

- State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors.
- No construction is required to implement the proposed delivery.
- The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed change in points of delivery.
- There will be no change in land use.

Responsible Agency Contact Person: David Rizzardo

Telephone: 916-653-9593

Signature: _____


Pedro Villalobos, Chief
State Water Project Analysis Office
Department of Water Resources

Date: _____

9/26/19

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Date received for filing OPR: ~~_____~~ **SEP 27 2019**

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE