

RECEIVED WITH FEE  
RECEIPT # 15141976

COPY

50.3 ENVIRONMENTAL CEQA  
FILED  
KERN COUNTY

DEC 05 2019

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

MARY B. BEDARD  
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER-COUNTY CLERK  
BY [Signature] DEPUTY

To: Office of Planning and Research  
P.O. Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Kern County Water Agency  
P.O. Box 58  
Bakersfield, CA 93302-0058

Kern County Clerk  
1115 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

**Project Title:** Agreement between the Kern County Water Agency (Agency), Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Santa Barbara) and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for Delivery of 2019 State Water Project (SWP) water by Central Coast Water Authority (Central Coast) to Irvine Ranch Water District (Irvine Ranch) Strand Ranch and/or Stockdale West Integrated Banking projects (Banking Projects) on behalf of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan).

**Location -- Specific:** The Agency is a State Water Project (SWP) contractor located in Kern County in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Irvine Ranch owns the Banking Projects located in Kern County and is a member agency of Metropolitan located in Orange County. Metropolitan is a SWP contractor located in Los Angeles, California serving the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura. Central Coast is a public entity with eight member agencies including the City of Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara is a SWP contractor located in Santa Barbara County and a member of Central Coast. The SWP includes facilities located throughout the State of California.

**Location -- County:** Kern County.

**Description of Activity:** In 2019, Central Coast will transfer up to 700 acre-feet (af) of Santa Barbara's 2019 SWP water to the Agency for delivery to Irvine Ranch's Banking Projects on behalf of Metropolitan from California Aqueduct turnouts located in the Agency's service area. Within six years, the Agency will return to Metropolitan, based on an unbalanced exchange ratio of 2 to 1, up to 350 af of water banked in Irvine Ranch's Banking Projects less applicable losses. Metropolitan will return up to 350 af of its future SWP water to Central Coast.

**Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity:** Agency (Lead Agency).

**Exempt Status:**

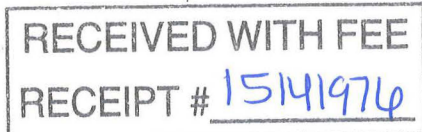
- ☐ Ministerial
- ☐ Declared Emergency
- ☐ Emergency Project
- ☒ **Categorical Exemption.** State type and section number: See CEQA Guideline 15301(b).
- ☒ **Statutory Exemption.** State code number: See CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)3.

RECEIVED - Kern County Water Agency  
CLC ☐  
DRB ☐  
SMR ☐  
NLP ☐  
CMV ☐  
MLA ☐  
DEC 09 2019  
All ☐ Orig to file ☐ Scan ☐

CEQA Guideline Section 15301(b) provides that a lead agency may determine an activity to be exempt from CEQA in that it utilizes only existing facilities. This transfer involves delivery of water entirely within the Agency's service area, and exclusively utilizes existing facilities. Additionally, and for 30 days thereafter, Pursuant to Section 21152(C), Public Resources Code

15589<sup>1</sup>

Notice of Environmental Document  
Posted by County Clerk on 12/5/19



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CEQA Guideline Section 15061(b)3 provides that a Lead Agency may determine an activity to be exempt based on a general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. The Agency finds that approval of the proposed water transfer has no possibility of significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

1. The proposed action consists of a one-time water transfer that will use existing facilities and would not require any construction or grading.
2. The proposed action does not constitute a new permanent source of water supply and will not result in any growth inducing or cumulative environmental impacts.
3. There will be no change in land use.

Irvine Ranch's Banking Projects were evaluated for environmental impacts under the Stockdale Integrated Banking Project Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) (SCH #2013091076) and the Strand Ranch Integrated Banking Project Draft EIR (SCH #2007041080). Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Rosedale), as the Lead Agency for the Stockdale Integrated Banking Project, filed a Notice of Determination on December 16, 2015. Rosedale, as the Lead Agency for the Strand Ranch Integrated Banking Project, filed a Notice of Determination on May 29, 2008.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Holly Melton

**Telephone:** (661) 634-1400

**Signature:**

  
**Holly Melton**

**Title:** Water Resources Manager

**Date:** 12/3/2019

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

Date received for filing by County Clerk:

☒ Signed by Applicant

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State of California - Department of Fish and Wildlife

## 2019 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

DFW 753.5a (Rev. 01/02/19) Previously DFG 753.5a

## RECEIPT NUMBER:

15 — 12052019 — 15141976

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NUMBER (if applicable)

## SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

LEAD AGENCY	LEAD AGENCY EMAIL	DATE
KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY		12/5/2019
COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING		DOCUMENT NUMBER
Kern		15589

## PROJECT TITLE

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY , SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER

PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	PROJECT APPLICANT EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
KERN COUNTY WATER AGENCY		( 661 ) 634-1400
PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE
3200 RIO MIRADA DR	BAKERSFIELD	CA
		ZIP CODE
		93308

## PROJECT APPLICANT (check appropriate box)

☒ Local Public Agency ☐ School District ☐ Other Special District ☐ State Agency ☐ Private Entity

## CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$3,271.00	\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (MND)(ND)	\$2,354.75	\$	0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Regulatory Program document (CRP)	\$1,112.00	\$	0.00

☐ Exempt from fee☒ Notice of Exemption (attach)☐ CDFW No Effect Determination (attach)☐ Fee previously paid (attach previously issued cash receipt copy)

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Right Application or Petition Fee (State Water Resources Control Board only)	\$850.00	\$	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County documentary handling fee		\$	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		\$	

## PAYMENT METHOD:

☐ Cash ☐ Credit ☒ Check ☐ Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 100.00

## SIGNATURE

X

## AGENCY OF FILING PRINTED NAME AND TITLE

E. DEL VILLAR, KERN COUNTY CLERK, ACCOUNTANT 2