NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 212

Sacramento, CA 95812

FROM: Public Agency: San Luis Water District

1015 Sixth Street P.O. Box 2135

Los Banos, CA 93635

o County Clerk

County of: Merced

Address:

2222 "M" Street, Room 14

Merced, CA 95340

o County Clerk

County of: Fresno

Address:

2221 Kern Street

Fresno, CA 93721

Project Title: United States Department of Energy Western Area Power Administration Sierra Nevada

Region Contract for Electrical Service Base Resource with San Luis Water District

Project Applicant: San Luis Water District

Project Location: Within the boundaries of San Luis Water District

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: See Attachment A

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: San Luis Water District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: San Luis Water District

Exempt Status: (check one)

- o Ministerial, (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- O Declared Emergency Project, (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- o Emergency Project, (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- X Categorical Exemption, State type and Section number: CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301
- X Statutory Exemption, State Code Number: <u>Public Resources Code, Section 21080(b)(8); CEQA Guidelines, Section 15273</u>

Reason why project is exempt: See Attachment A

Contact Person: Lon Martin Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (209) 826 4043

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.

2. Has a notice of exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes

Title: OENERAL TULO HOSafe Received for Filing by County Clerk_____

Attachment A Notice of Exemption

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

The project is the execution of a Contract Between the United States and San Luis Water District Providing for Electrical Service Base Resource to San Luis Water District facilities (Base Resource Contract) for the purpose of continuing delivery of Central Valley Project water within the District's service area boundary. The beneficiaries of the project are the District, its landowners and water users. The United States Department of Energy is a party to the bilateral agreement and as such is a recipient of the District's approval. (Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21065, 21167.5). The project is entirely administrative in scope.

Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt under 14 CCR 15273(a)(1) because the Base Resource Contract establishes the base resource percentage and charges for power provided thereunder in order to meet operating expenses and maintain existing services. It involves only adjustments to administrative terms and makes no substantial changes to preceding agreements. The Base Resource Contract does not involve any increase in service or expansion of the existing distribution system.

The project is also exempt under 14 CCR 15301 as it provides for the continued operation of existing facilities within established parameters. The project is wholly administrative in scope and involves no construction, alteration, or expansion of an existing use.