### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**To:** Office of Planning and Research Post Office Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812 From: Department of Water Resources Division of Operations and Maintenance 1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street Sacramento, California 95814

**Project Title:** Agreement among the Department of Water Resources of the State of California, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District, Westlands Water District, San Luis Water District, and Pleasant Valley Water District for a Change in Point of Delivery of Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District's State Water Project Table A Water. (SWPAO #21020)

Location - Specific: From the Delta to Reaches 3 through 7 of the California Aqueduct

Location -- County: Kings, Fresno, Merced and Tulare Counties

**Description of Activity:** Growers within Westlands Water District (WWD), San Luis Water District (SLWD), and Pleasant Valley Water District (PVWD) purchased, and divide among themselves, up to 65,000 acre-feet of pre-1914 Kings River water from J.G. Boswell Company (Boswell), a landowner in TLBWSD. In order to facilitate the delivery of WWD's, SLWD's, and PVWD's acquired water from Boswell to their service areas, TLBWSD proposes to transfer up to 65,000 acre-feet of TLBWSD's 2021 approved SWP Table A water (TLBWSD's Table A Water) to WWD, SLWD, and PVWD. In exchange, up to 65,000 acre-feet of Boswell's pre-1914 Kings River water will be delivered to TLBWSD for use in its service area. The delivery of TLBWSD's Table A Water to WWD, SLWD, and PVWD is covered under the 2021 Consolidated Place of Use Order (Order) approved by the State Water Resources Control Board and must be completed before the Order expires on July 15, 2022.

**Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity:** TLBWSD (lead agency), WWD, SLWD, PVWD, and DWR Board (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. The proposed project is a water management operation using only existing facilities.
- b. The project will not support new development or a change in land use.
- c. The project does not establish a new permanent source of water supply.
- d. The temporary change in point of delivery due the exchange is exempt from CEQA under Section 1729 of the California Water Code.

#### Responsible Agency Contact Person: Patrick Luzuriaga

**Telephone**: 916-653-9593

Signature: John Irahigh

Date: 10/17/2021

John Leahigh Water Operations Executive Manager Division of Operations and Management DWR

Date received for filing OPR: \_\_\_\_\_

# **DocuSign**<sup>\*</sup>

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