

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

To:	Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation Attn: State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, California 95814	From:	Department of Water Resources Water Management P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, California 94236-0001
		Contact: Phone:	Patrick Luzuriaga 916-820-7778

Subject	Filing of Notice of Determination in Compliance with § 21108 of the Public Resource Code
Project Title	Conveyance of Non-Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWP #26013)
State Clearinghouse Number(s)	SCH #2011061057
Lead Agency	San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority
Project Location (include county)	From O'Neill Forebay and/or Banks Pumping Plant to Kern County Water Agency's (KCWA) turnout(s) in Reaches 9 through 16A of the State Water Project's California Aqueduct; Kern County
Project Description	This project is for the conveyance of up to 10,000 acre-feet per year of the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority's Central Valley Project (CVP) water (Non-Project Water) to KCWA, on behalf of its four member units that make up the Westside Districts (Belridge Water Storage District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Lost Hills Water District, and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District), under Article 55 of KCWA's Water Supply Contract with DWR. This Non-Project Water will be made available by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to DWR at O'Neill Forebay and/or Banks Pumping Plant for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA for use in the CVP place of use through December 31, 2030.
Determination	This is to advise that DWR, acting as a Responsible Agency, approved the project described above on July 6, 2026 and has made the following determinations: 1. The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. 2. Pursuant to CEQA, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, as the lead public agency, prepared an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement jointly with the United States Bureau of Reclamation for this project. DWR independently reviewed and considered this environmental documentation prior to approving the project. The project is within the scope of the Final EIR/EIS and no additional environmental review is required pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15162-15164.

	3. Mitigation measures, as described in Chapter 14 of the Final EIR/EIS (SCH 2011061057), were made a condition of the approval of the project. San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, as the lead agency, is responsible for the implementation of the mitigation measures. 4. A statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted by DWR for this project. 5. Findings were not made by DWR pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. DWR's decision and determination are based on the documents described herein, which are available for review at the office of San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority, 541 H Street, Los Banos, CA 93635.
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Signature: <i>Molly White</i> Molly White Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project	Date: 7/8/2026
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