DUDLEY RIDGE WATER DISTRICT

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JOSEPH D. HUGHES

April 24, 2020

Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth St
Sacramento, CA 95814

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a Notice of Exemption for the Agreement between Dudley Ridge Water District and Solano County Water Agency for a Water Exchange. Please post for a period of 30 days.

Respectfully,

Rick Besecker

Rick Besecker
Assessor-Collector-Treasurer
Enclosure

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 29 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

2020050005

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

---Exempt from recording fees per Government Code 6103---

To: Office of Planning & Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: Dudley Ridge Water District
286 West Cromwell Avenue
Fresno, CA 93711-6162

To: Kings County Clerk
1400 W. Lacy Blvd.
Kings County Government Center
Hanford, CA 93230

To: Solano County Clerk
County Administration Center
675 Texas St., Ste. 6500, 6th Fl.
Fairfield, CA 94533

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
APR 29 2020
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Project Title: Agreement between Dudley Ridge Water District and Solano County Water Agency for a Water Exchange.

Location -- Specific: Dudley Ridge Water District ("DRWD") is a State Water Project contractor located in southern Kings County in the San Joaquin Valley. The State Water Project ("SWP") includes facilities located throughout the State of California. The Solano County Water Agency ("SCWA") is a State Water Project contractor and is located in Solano County. The California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") is headquartered in Sacramento, California.

Location -- County: Kings and Solano Counties.

Description of Activity: DRWD has proposed an exchange program with SCWA that would transfer up to 7,164 acre-feet of SCWA's 2020 SWP Table A water supply from SCWA to DRWD for future return from DRWD to SCWA of one-fourth of the quantity of water delivered to DRWD in 2020. There is no construction, land use change, or modification to existing facilities; no new lands will be brought into production as a result of the requested exchange.

Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying Out Activity: Dudley Ridge Water District (Lead Agency), Solano County Water Agency, California Department of Water Resources (Responsible Agencies).

Exempt Status:

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

Reasons why activity is exempt: CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)3 provides that a lead agency may determine an activity to be exempt from CEQA based upon the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that have a potential for causing significant environmental impacts. 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. DRWD finds that approval of the project has no possibility for significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

a. An Initial Study, Environmental Checklist, and Negative Declaration were prepared, circulated, and adopted in 2016 for the District's Water Management Plan, which describes projects like this as being part of the District's routine water management strategy. A Notice of Determination for the Plan was filed in April 2016.
b. No construction is required to implement the project.
c. No adverse environmental impacts have been identified with implementation of the project.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Dale K. Melville **Telephone**: (559) 449-2700

Signature: _____ **Title**: Manager-Engineer **Date:** 4-24-2020
Dale K. Melville

☐ Signed by Lead Agency
☐ Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing OPR:

_____

Date received for filing by County Clerk:

_____

[This Notice of Exemption has been prepared as an accommodation to DWR to provide DWR a better understanding of the absence of impacts related to the proposed exchange. The DRWD has determined that the exchange has been adequately covered under the CEQA documentation prepared for the District's 2015 Update to the 2012 Water Management Plan.]