

*ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION

(CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME CODE SECTION 711.4)

LEAD AGENCY NAME AND ADDRESS

attn.: Elke Rank
Alameda County Flood Control and
Water Conservation District, Zone 7
100 North Canyons Parkway
Livermore, CA 94551

FOR COUNTY CLERK USE ONLY

FILE NO: _____

CLASSIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT:

(PLEASE MARK ONLY ONE CLASSIFICATION)

1. NOTICE OF EXEMPTION / STATEMENT OF EXEMPTION

A - STATUTORILY OR CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT

\$ 50.00 - COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

2. NOTICE OF DETERMINATION (NOD)

A - NEGATIVE DECLARATION (OR MITIGATED NEG. DEC.)

\$ 2,968.75 - STATE FILING FEE

\$ 50.00 - COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

B - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR)

\$ 4,123.50 - STATE FILING FEE

\$ 50.00 - COUNTY CLERK HANDLING FEE

3. OTHER: Notice of Intent to Adopt to Mitigated Negative Declaration

A COPY OF THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED WITH EACH COPY OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL DECLARATION BEING FILED WITH THE ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK.

BY MAIL FILINGS:

PLEASE INCLUDE FIVE (5) COPIES OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND TWO (2) SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES.

IN PERSON FILINGS:

PLEASE INCLUDE FIVE (5) COPIES OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND ONE (1) SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES.

ALL APPLICABLE FEES MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF FILING.

FEES ARE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALAMEDA COUNTY CLERK



Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
Submitted online

From: ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY
100 North Canyons Parkway
Livermore, CA 94551
925-454-5000
Attn.: Elke Rank

To: County Clerk, County of Alameda
1106 Madison Street
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: June 13, 2025

Project Title: Westside Water Districts 2025 Water Transfer

Project Location – Specific: California Department of Water Resources facilities, Dudley Ridge Water District, Zone 7 Water Agency, and four member units within the Kern County Water Agency; Berrenda Mesa Water District, Belridge Water Storage District, Lost Hills Water District, and Wheeler Ridge – Maricopa Water Storage District.

Project Location – County: Alameda County, Kings County, Kern County, State Water Project facilities which span multiple counties.

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project: Zone 7 Water Agency and Dudley Ridge Water District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Belridge Water Storage District, Lost Hills Water District, and Wheeler Ridge – Maricopa Water Storage District (all five agencies collectively called the Westside Water Districts herein) propose a water transfer of up to 8,000 Acre-feet of Zone 7's State Water Project 2025 Table A water supplies. All six entities are either State Water Project contractors or member agencies of a State Water Project contractor (Kern County Water Agency). The water will be delivered to the Westside Districts via existing facilities such as the California Aqueduct and the Point of Transfer will be Banks Pumping Plant. To deliver the water, a water transfer agreement will be executed among all six agencies and a State Water Project Agreement will be executed between the California Department of Water Resources, Dudley Ridge Water District, Zone 7 Water Agency, and Kern County Water Agency.

Name of Public Agency Approving and Carrying Out Project: Zone 7 Water Agency, Dudley Ridge Water District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Belridge Water Storage District, Lost Hills Water District, and Wheeler Ridge – Maricopa Water Storage District are all transfer participants.

In addition, Kern County Water Agency and the Department of Water Resources will be involved in the State Water Project Agreement.

Project Manager: Kevin Padway. 925-454-5020

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
- Categorical Exemption. CEQA Guidelines Section **15301. EXISTING FACILITIES**
- Statutory Exemptions

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:

The project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption under CEQA Guidelines as follows:

15301. EXISTING FACILITIES. Operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. No new facilities are being authorized as part of this agreement; it is anticipated to utilize existing facilities in a like manner as they have historically been used, and environmental considerations are expected to be similar as historical operations.

The project is also not subject to CEQA as follows:

15061(b)(3) – COMMON SENSE RULE. The activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the 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.

None of the conditions noted under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines 15300.2 (as revised) will occur. Furthermore, this project will not result in potential for significant environmental impacts because:

- No new facilities are being authorized by the agreement and existing facilities will continue to be used in a like manner.
- Any incremental water transported in State Water Project Facilities or other water conveyance facilities via this transfer is anticipated to be di minimis compared to the total amount of water those existing facilities convey.

Lead Agency CEQA Contact: Elke Rank **Area Code/Telephone/Ext:** 925-454-5005

Signature:	
Title	Water Resources Planner Zone 7 Water Agency