

Public Notice

Notice of Exemption



To: County of Santa Clara  
Clerk-Recorder’s Office  
110 West Tasman Dr, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
San Jose CA 95134

From: Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose CA 95118-3686  
Telephone (408) 265-2600

**Project Title:** 2026-2027 Short-term Water Transfer between Valley Water and Westlands Water District (WWD)/Westside Mutual Water Company (Westside)

**Project Location - Specific:** The temporary water transfer would be delivered to WWD via WWD’s existing turnouts in Reaches 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the San Luis Canal.

Reach 4: milepost 103, west of the town of Cantua Creek, to milepost 122.07 in Fresno County

Reach 5: mileposts 122.07 to 155.5 in Fresno County

Reach 6: milepost 155.5 in Fresno County to 1.25 miles northwest of Kettleman City in Kings County

Reach 7: from 1.25 miles northwest of Kettleman City to where the San Luis Canal becomes the California Aqueduct in Kings County

**Project Location - City:** Various

**Project Location - County:** Santa Clara, Fresno, and Kings Counties

**Project Purpose:** To transfer up to 2,000 acre feet of Valley Water’s surplus agricultural CVP allocation to Westside for agricultural use via WWD’s existing turnouts.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Valley Water

**Name of Agency or Person Carrying Out Project:** Valley Water

**Exempt Status:** (check one)

- Ministerial [Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268]
- Declared Emergency [Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)]
- Emergency Project [Sec. 21080(b)(c)]
- Categorical Exemption [CEQA Guidelines §15301: Class 1, Existing Facilities]
- Statutory Exemption

**Description of Project:** WWD and Valley Water are South of Delta Central Valley Project (CVP) contractors and are eligible participants in the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) South of Delta Accelerated Water Transfer Program for Contract Years 2025-2030, which provides an accelerated

process for annual water transfers and/or exchanges between South of Delta CVP contractors that occur between March 1, 2025 and February 28, 2030. Valley Water has determined that up to 2,000 acre-feet of Valley Water's 2025-2026 agricultural CVP supplies in San Luis Reservoir is surplus to the existing needs of Valley Water's customers.

Under the Project, during the 2026-2027 federal water year, Valley Water would request that the USBR transfer up to 2,000 acre-feet of Valley Water's surplus agricultural supplies to WWD's existing turnouts in Fresno and Kings Counties. Westside, which has land holdings in WWD, would receive the water from WWD in their account, and use the water for agricultural purposes.

**Reasons Why Project is Exempt:** The transfer would be conducted via existing water diversion, conveyance, and storage facilities. The Project does not involve new construction, alteration of existing facilities, or expansion of use. None of the exceptions in CEQA Guidelines §15300.2 that would disqualify the Project from being categorically exempt exist.

**Lead Agency:** Santa Clara Valley Water District  
**Contact Person:** Kelly White, Environmental Planner  
**Area Code/Telephone/Extension:** (408) 630-2840

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_  
AZ79201597A2405...

Date: 5/7/2026

Title: Vincent Gin, P.E.  
Deputy Operating Officer  
Water Supply Division

cc: CEQA Administrative Record

**Public Notice**

**Notice of Exemption**



**To:** Kings County Clerk/Recorder  
Kings County Government Center  
1400 W. Lacey Blvd  
Hanford, CA 93230

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5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose, CA 95118-3686  
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Title: Vincent Gin, P.E.  
Deputy Operating Officer  
Water Supply Division

cc: CEQA Administrative Record

**Public Notice**

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**To:** Fresno County Clerk's Office  
2220 Tulare St, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Fresno, CA 93721

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