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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:	Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation Attn: State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814	**From:**	Department of Water Resources Water Management P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, California 95814

Project Title	Transfer of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's 2026 State Water Project Table A Water to Dudley Ridge Water District and/or Kern County Water Agency (SWP #26016)
Location- Specific	From the Delta to Dudley Ridge Water District's (Dudley Ridge's) turnout(s) at Reach 8D of the California Aqueduct and/or Kern County Water Agency's (KCWA's) turnout(s) at Reaches 9 through 16A of the California Aqueduct and/or Reach 31A of the California Aqueduct's Coastal Branch of the State Water Project (SWP).
Location- County	Kings and Kern Counties
Description of Activity	SWP Agreement #26016 provides for a non-permanent transfer of up to 100,000 acre-feet of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (Metropolitan's) approved 2026 SWP Table A water to Dudley Ridge and/or KCWA. The transfer of water shall be completed by December 31, 2026 for use in Dudley Ridge's and/or KCWA's respective service areas.
Name of Public Agencies Approving or Carrying out Activity	Metropolitan (local agency), Dudley Ridge (local agency), KCWA (local agency), DWR (state agency)
Exempt Status	☐ Ministerial ☐ Declared Emergency ☐ Emergency Project ☑ Categorical Exemption: Class 1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities ☐ Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729
Reasons why activity is exempt	a. SWP long-term water supply contracts include provisions for delivery within SWP place of use, including transfers between SWP contractors. b. No construction is required to implement the proposed delivery. c. The facilities are existing facilities that have not been expanded or modified to implement the proposed delivery. d. There will be no change in land use.
DWR Contact Person	Patrick Luzuriaga Telephone: 916-820-7778

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Signature:	Date:
Molly White Molly White Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project	8/4/2026