

Public Notice

Notice of Exemption



To: County of Santa Clara
Clerk-Recorder's Office
110 West Tasman Dr, 1st 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: Water Transfer of CVP Allocation Between Valley Water and Kern-Tulare Water District

Project Location - City: Various

Project Location - County: Santa Clara and Kern Counties

Project Purpose: To transfer up to 7,500 acre feet of Valley Water's surplus Municipal & Industrial CVP allocation to KTWD via KTWD'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: KTWD 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 7,500 acre-feet of Valley Water's 2026-2027 Municipal & Industrial CVP supplies is surplus to the existing needs of Valley Water's customers.

Under the proposed project, during the 2026-2027 federal water year, Valley Water would request that the USBR transfer up to 7,500 acre-feet of Valley Water's surplus Municipal & Industrial supplies to KTWD's existing turnouts.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The transfer would be conducted via existing water diversion, conveyance, and storage facilities. The proposed 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 proposed 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: Kelly C White

Date: August 26, 2026

Title: Kelly White
Associate Environmental Planner
Utility Planning and FAHCE Support

cc: CEQA Administrative Record