

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 94236-0001
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Project Title	Transfer of Santa Clara Valley Water District's 2026 State Water Project Table A Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWP #26023)
Location- Specific	From the Delta to Kern County Water Agency's (KCWA) turnout(s) at Reaches 9 through 16A of the California Aqueduct and Reach 31A of the California Aqueduct's Coastal Branch of the State Water Project (SWP).
Location- County	Kern County
Description of Activity	SWP Agreement #26023 provides for a non-permanent transfer of up to 8,000 acre-feet of Santa Clara Valley Water District's (Santa Clara's) approved 2026 SWP Table A water to KCWA for the benefit and use of KCWA member units Lost Hills Water District (Lost Hills) and Berrenda Mesa Water District (Berrenda Mesa), and Westside Mutual Water Company, a mutual water company with members who are landowners within Berrenda Mesa and Lost Hills. The transfer of water shall be completed by December 31, 2026.
Name of Public Agencies Approving or Carrying out Activity	Santa Clara (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

Signature: <u>Molly White</u> Molly White Assistant Division Manager, Water Management Division of Operations and Maintenance State Water Project	Date: <u>9/3/2026</u>
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