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NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:	Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation Attn: State Clearinghouse 1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, California 95814	**From:**	Department of Water Resources Water Management P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, California 94236-0001

Project Title	Conveyance of Non-Project Water to Kern County Water Agency (SWP #26026)
Location- Specific	From Banks Pumping Plant and/or O'Neill Forebay to Kern County Water Agency's (KCWA) turnout(s) in Reaches 9 through 16A of the State Water Project's California Aqueduct
Location- County	Kern County
Description of Activity	SWP #26026 provides for the conveyance of up to 20,000 acre-feet of Arvin-Edison Water Storage District's 2026 Central Valley Project (CVP) water (Non-Project Water) to KCWA under Article 55 of KCWA's Water Supply Contract with DWR. This Non-Project Water will be made available by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to DWR at O'Neill Forebay and/or Banks Pumping Plant for subsequent delivery by DWR to KCWA through February 28, 2027 for use in the CVP place of use. If KCWA is unable to take full delivery of the Non-Project Water by February 28, 2027 under this Agreement, KCWA may store such water in San Luis Reservoir for later delivery to its service area by December 31, 2027.
Name of Public Agency Approving or Carrying out Activity	KCWA (Local agency), DWR (State agency), Reclamation (Federal agency)
Exempt Status	☐ Ministerial ☐ Declared Emergency ☐ Emergency Project ☑ Categorical Exemption: Class 1; CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, existing facility ☐ Statutory Exemption: California Water Code Section 1729
Reasons why activity is exempt	a. State Water Project long-term water supply contract includes provisions for conveyance of non-project water to SWP contractors. b. The project is a water management operation using only existing facilities. c. The project will not support new development or a change in land use. d. The project does not establish a new permanent source of water supply.
Responsible Agency 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	10/21/2026