

RESOLUTION 2021-03

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF STATE WATER
PROJECT CONTRACT CARRYOVER WATER FROM VENTURA WATER AND/OR
CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AND FINDING THAT THE ASSOCIATED
STATE WATER PROJECT TRANSFER IS EXEMPT FROM CEQA**

WHEREAS, for the purpose of meeting water resource management goals and maximizing importation of State Water Project water into Ventura County, the United Water Conservation District (“District”) proposes to execute a contract for the purchase of carryover water allocated under the State Water Project contract from Ventura Water and/or Casitas Municipal Water District (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project consists of the contractual purchase of 525 acre-feet from Ventura Water and/or 3,100 acre-feet from Casitas Municipal Water District. The District will take delivery of State Water Project water through Reach 29 of the California Aqueduct at Lake Pyramid or through Reach 30 at Castaic Lake; and

WHEREAS, the State Water Project water transferred between Ventura County agencies under the proposed Project will be used for beneficial purposes in Ventura County; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project will result in a single year transfer of State Water Project water between parties authorized to receive and transfer of such water under a State Water Project contract approved in 1963; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Project will use existing facilities and involves no construction or changes in land use and negligible expansion of use; and

WHEREAS, the District has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that it is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) (“CEQA”) pursuant to the ongoing project statutory exemption under Public Resources Code section 21169 and State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000 et seq.) section 15261(a) because the proposed Project is merely an incidental part of an original, ongoing pre-CEQA project – the State Water Project contract; and

WHEREAS, the District has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that it is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to the Class 1, Existing Facilities, categorical exemption under State CEQA Guidelines section 15301 because the proposed Project involves the operation of existing facilities with negligible expansion of use; and

WHEREAS, the District has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that none of the conditions prohibiting exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15261(a) apply; and

WHEREAS, the District has reviewed the proposed Project and has determined that none of the exceptions to categorical exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply.

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of United Water Conservation District does hereby **RESOLVE, DETERMINE, and ORDER** as follows:

1. CEQA Compliance

The Board of Directors hereby finds that approval of the proposed Project is not subject to environmental review under CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines, on grounds that the proposed Project is statutorily and categorically exempt. Specifically, the Board of Directors finds that the proposed Project is statutorily exempt pursuant to the ongoing project statutory exemption under Public Resources Code section 21169 and State CEQA Guidelines section 15261(a) because the proposed Project is merely an incidental part of an original, ongoing pre-CEQA project – the State Water Project contract. The proposed Project is also categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines section 15301 because the proposed Project involves the operation of existing facilities with negligible expansion of use. The Board of Directors further hereby finds none of the conditions prohibiting exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15261(a) apply and that none of the exceptions to categorical exemption set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply.

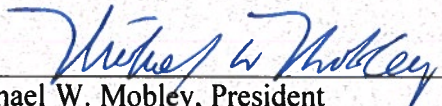
2. Approval of the Project

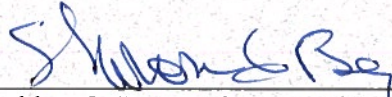
The Board of Directors hereby approves the Project and its implementation.

3. Notice of Exemption

The Board of Directors hereby directs Staff to execute and file a Notice of Exemption for the Project as permitted by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 13TH DAY OF JANUARY 2021


Michael W. Mobley, President


Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer

