

RESOLUTION NO. SCV-521

RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVING, PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT RESPONSIBLE AGENCY FINDINGS AS TO THE ADOPTED MULTI-YEAR WATER TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE AGREEMENT INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION (SCH # 2026020535), AND AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE A MULTI-YEAR WATER TRANSFER AND EXCHANGE AGREEMENT BETWEEN SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY AND THE WESTSIDE DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (SCV Water) and the Westside Districts (Belridge Water Storage District, Berrenda Mesa Water District, Lost Hills Water District, Dudley Ridge Water District, and Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District) have agreed to a long-term water transfer and exchange program to optimize the use of their respective State Water Project (SWP) Table A allocations to enhance water management flexibility and provide financial benefits to both parties; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) requires an Initial Study – Negative Declaration to be completed prior to submitting a long-term transfer and exchange package for approval; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2026, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) (Pub. Res. Code, § 21000, et seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15000, et seq.), the Dudley Ridge Water District adopted the Westside Districts State Water Project Multi-Year Transfer Agreement with Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency (“Agreement”) Initial Study/Negative Declaration (“IS/ND”) (SCH #2026020535) and approved the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water hereby incorporates by reference the IS/ND adopted by the Dudley Ridge Water District, copies of which are on file with SCV Water; and

WHEREAS, SCV Water, at its agendaized public meeting on April 7, 2026 independently reviewed and considered the IS/ND under State CEQA Guideline section 15096 for the parts of the Agreement that are within the scope of its jurisdiction, and other information in the record consistent with the process set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15096;

WHEREAS, the Westside District and SCV Water continue to finalize language within the Water Transfer and Exchange Agreement; once language is finalized and executed by all participants, a final transfer package will be submitted to DWR for approval to give SCV Water the ability to utilize this agreement as a water management tool moving forward; and

WHEREAS, all of the findings and conclusions made by SCV Water pursuant to this Resolution are based upon the oral and written evidence presented to it as a whole and not based solely on the information provided in this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, all other legal prerequisites to the adoption of this Resolution have occurred;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by SCV Water, that:

1. **Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein.

2. **CEQA Compliance.** As the decision-making body for SCV Water, and in SCV Water's limited role as a responsible agency under CEQA, the SCV Water Board of Directors ("Board of Directors") has independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the IS/ND, and all supporting documentation. Based on this review, the Board of Directors finds that, as to those potential environmental impacts within SCV Water's powers and authorities as responsible agency, the IS/ND and supporting environmental documentation contain a complete, objective, and accurate reporting of the Agreement's potential impacts, adequately and properly analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the Agreement; the Board of Directors further finds that these documents comply with all CEQA requirements.

SCV Water further hereby finds that, as to parts of the Agreement that are within the scope of its jurisdiction, none of the conditions set forth in State CEQA Guidelines section 15162 that could potentially trigger the need for a Subsequent EIR or Subsequent Negative Declaration apply to the Agreement. The Agreement does not entail or propose any substantial changes to the IS/ND that will require major revisions of the IS/ND due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects within the scope of SCV Water's jurisdiction. There have been no substantial changes that have occurred with respect to the circumstances under which the Agreement will take place, which was analyzed in the IS/ND, will be undertaken that will require major revisions of the IS/ND due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects within the scope of SCV Water's jurisdiction. There has been no new information of substantial importance within the scope of SCV Water's jurisdiction, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the IS/ND was adopted, which shows that:

- (1) the Agreement will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the IS/ND;
- (2) significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the IS/ND;
- (3) mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the Agreement; or
- (4) mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the IS/ND would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment.

3. **Approval of Westside Districts State Water Project Multi-Year Transfer**

Agreement: The Board of Directors authorizes staff to execute the Westside Districts State Water Project Multi-Year Transfer agreement between SCV Water and the Westside Districts consistent with the terms in the term sheet and staff report provided to the Board.

4. **Notice of Determination.** The Board of Directors hereby directs staff to prepare, file, and cause to be posted a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk or Clerk to the Board of Supervisors in the Counties of Los Angeles, Kern, Kings, Alameda, and Contra Costa within five (5) working days of the approval of the Resolution.

W. P. Lopez
Vice President

I, the undersigned, hereby certify: That I am the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, and that at a regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors of said Agency held on April 7, 2026 the foregoing Resolution No. SCV-521 was duly and regularly adopted by said Board, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended since the date of its adoption, and that it is now in full force and effect.

DATED: April 7, 2026

April Davis
Secretary

