

## ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR PETITIONS

This form is required for all petitions.

Before the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) can approve a petition, the State Water Board must consider the information contained in an environmental document prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This form is not a CEQA document. If a CEQA document has not yet been prepared, a determination must be made of who is responsible for its preparation. As the petitioner, you are responsible for all costs associated with the environmental evaluation and preparation of the required CEQA documents. Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability and submit any studies that have been conducted regarding the environmental evaluation of your project. If you need more space to completely answer the questions, please number and attach additional sheets.

### DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGES OR WORK REMAINING TO BE COMPLETED

For a petition for change, provide a description of the proposed changes to your project including, but not limited to, type of construction activity, structures existing or to be built, area to be graded or excavated, increase in water diversion and use (up to the amount authorized by the permit), changes in land use, and project operational changes, including changes in how the water will be used. For a petition for extension of time, provide a description of what work has been completed and what remains to be done. Include in your description any of the above elements that will occur during the requested extension period.

See Attachment No. 1

Insert the attachment number here, if applicable:

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**Coordination with Regional Water Quality Control Board**

For change petitions only, you must request consultation with the Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding the potential effects of your proposed change on water quality and other instream beneficial uses. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 794.) In order to determine the appropriate office for consultation, see: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterboards\\_map.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterboards_map.shtml). Provide the date you submitted your request for consultation here, then provide the following information.

Date of Request

April 16, 2018

Will your project, during construction or operation, (1) generate waste or wastewater containing such things as sewage, industrial chemicals, metals, or agricultural chemicals, or (2) cause erosion, turbidity or sedimentation?

Yes  No

Will a waste discharge permit be required for the project?

Yes  No

If necessary, provide additional information below:

Matt Scroggins (559-445-6042) of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board was contacted in order to discuss the proposed temporary water transfer; and no comments were provided at this time. A copy of this petition has been provided to Mr. Scroggins concurrently with the submittal of this petition to the Division of Water Rights.

Insert the attachment number here, if applicable:

**Local Permits**

For temporary transfers only, you must contact the board of supervisors for the county(ies) both for where you currently store or use water and where you propose to transfer the water. (Wat. Code § 1726.) Provide the date you submitted your request for consultation here.

Date of Contact

May 14, 2018

For change petitions only, you should contact your local planning or public works department and provide the information below.

Person Contacted:  Date of Contact:

Department:  Phone Number:

County Zoning Designation:

Are any county permits required for your project? If yes, indicate type below.  Yes  No

- Grading Permit       Use Permit       Watercourse       Obstruction Permit
- Change of Zoning       General Plan Change       Other (explain below)

If applicable, have you obtained any of the permits listed above? If yes, provide copies.  Yes  No

If necessary, provide additional information below:

Not Applicable.

Insert the attachment number here, if applicable:

**Federal and State Permits** Not Applicable.

Check any additional agencies that may require permits or other approvals for your project:

- Regional Water Quality Control Board     Department of Fish and Game
- Dept of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams     California Coastal Commission
- State Reclamation Board     U.S. Army Corps of Engineers     U.S. Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management     Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

Have you obtained any of the permits listed above? If yes, provide copies.     Yes     No

For each agency from which a permit is required, provide the following information:

Agency	Permit Type	Person(s) Contacted	Contact Date	Phone Number
Not Applicable				

If necessary, provide additional information below:

Not Applicable

Insert the attachment number here, if applicable:

**Construction or Grading Activity**

Does the project involve any construction or grading-related activity that has significantly altered or would significantly alter the bed, bank or riparian habitat of any stream or lake?     Yes     No

If necessary, provide additional information below:

Not Applicable.

Insert the attachment number here, if applicable:

**Archeology**

- Has an archeological report been prepared for this project? If yes, provide a copy.  Yes  No
- Will another public agency be preparing an archeological report?  Yes  No
- Do you know of any archeological or historic sites in the area? If yes, explain below.  Yes  No

If necessary, provide additional information below:

Not Applicable.

Insert the attachment number here, if applicable:

**Photographs** See Attachment.

For all petitions other than time extensions, attach complete sets of color photographs, clearly dated and labeled, showing the vegetation that exists at the following three locations:

- Along the stream channel immediately downstream from each point of diversion
- Along the stream channel immediately upstream from each point of diversion
- At the place where water subject to this water right will be used

**Maps** See Attachment.

For all petitions other than time extensions, attach maps labeled in accordance with the regulations showing all applicable features, both present and proposed, including but not limited to: point of diversion, point of rediversion, distribution of storage reservoirs, point of discharge of treated wastewater, place of use, and location of instream flow dedication reach. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, §§ 715 et seq., 794.)

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 794, petitions for change submitted without maps may not be accepted.

**All Water Right Holders Must Sign This Form:**

I (we) hereby certify that the statements I (we) have furnished above and in the attachments are complete to the best of my (our) ability and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge. Dated May 14, 2018 at 744 W 20th St., Merced CA 95340 .

*Heather Scott*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Water Right Holder or Authorized Agent Signature

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Water Right Holder or Authorized Agent Signature

**NOTE:**

- Petitions for Change may not be accepted unless you include proof that a copy of the petition was served on the Department of Fish and Game. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 794.)
- Petitions for Temporary Transfer may not be accepted unless you include proof that a copy of the petition was served on the Department of Fish and Game and the board of supervisors for the county(ies) where you currently store or use water and the county(ies) where you propose to transfer the water. (Wat. Code § 1726.)

**Attachment No. 1**  
**to Environmental Information for**  
**Petition for Temporary Transfer**  
**License 2685 (Application 1224)**  
**held by Merced Irrigation District**

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGES**

Merced Irrigation District (Merced) has filed a Petition for Change Involving Water Transfers (Petition) to: (1) add the State Water Project's (SWP) Harvey O. Banks Pumping Plant and San Luis Reservoir as additional points of rediversion, and (2) add the service area of the SWP as an additional place of use under Merced's License 2685 (Application 1224) for the release of up to 20,000 AF of surface water for use within the Belridge Water Storage District (Belridge). The releases by Merced for the proposed water transfer would occur during a period of up to one year following approval of the Petition. There is no change to the existing points of diversion or rediversion, place of use, or purposes of use identified in License 2685.

Approval of this petition would provide for up to the proposed temporary transfer quantity of 20,000 AF made available from Merced by releases of surface water. The proposed quantity of water to be made available by Merced involves releases from Lake McClure (New Exchequer Dam) into the Merced River for rediversion at one or more of the proposed additional points of rediversion. Merced proposes to add the two points of rediversion listed above to its License 2685 in order to provide flexibility in the location at which the proposed releases are rediverted in the case that capacity or other limitations reduce the availability of one or more of these existing facilities. The proposed quantity of water transferred will be rediverted and conveyed through existing facilities for delivery to Belridge. The releases by Merced for the proposed water transfer would occur during the period of July through October.

Merced is required to release water pursuant to its other existing downstream requirements and commitments. As a result of this proposed temporary transfer, the flow between Merced's existing point of diversion at New Exchequer Dam to the proposed additional point(s) of rediversion will increase by up to 20,000 AF during the period of the transfer over what would have occurred absent the proposed transfer. There will be no changes to the crops produced within Merced's boundaries as a result of the temporary water transfer; thus, Merced will provide the proposed releases over and above existing requirements, commitments, and deliveries. Absent the proposed temporary transfer, Merced would have retained the 20,000 AF of surface water in storage pursuant to its water right. Merced will implement refill criteria to assure no adverse impact occurs to downstream water right holders. For these reasons, the proposed temporary transfer does not involve any construction or physical changes to Belridge's facilities. Petitions for temporary transfer of water pursuant to Water Code Section 1725 are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

The present points of diversion include existing facilities that are well known and documented with the Division. In addition, the present and proposed places of use are also well

Merced Irrigation District License 2685 (Application 1224)  
Attachment to Environmental Information

known and documented with the Division. Therefore, for these reasons, photographs of these points of diversion and places of use are not included.

**MAPS**

The present points of diversion, points of rediversion, and places of use are shown on maps filed with the Division for License 2685. The proposed additional points of rediversion for the SWP Banks Pumping Plant and San Luis Reservoir are shown on maps filed with the Division for Application 5630. The proposed additional place of use is the service area of the SWP shown on Map 1878 -2 on file with the Division under Application 5630.

CB/ab/jp

5520.7/ FINAL ATTACHMENT 1 TO ENVIRONMENTAL FORM TRANSFER 2018-05-14