NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Advisory Committee Meeting – May 8, 2026

In-Person and Teleconference Meeting

Please Note: All Committee Members are required to attend in person unless provisions of AB2449 have been satisfied.

Please notify Laurie Kiser immediately if you or your designated alternate(s) are unable to attend the Advisory Committee Meeting at the City of Clovis Public Safety Room on May 8, 2026.

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA
NKGSA Advisory Committee
May 8, 2026, 1:30 PM

TELECONFERENCE and IN-PERSON MEETING

The NKGSA is offering its Advisory Committee meeting both via teleconference and in-person. Members of the public are encouraged to participate either in person at the City of Clovis Public Safety Community Room, 1233 Fifth Street, Clovis, CA, or virtually using the information provided below. All committee members participating in the meeting will be in person.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
Join Zoom Meeting
https://zoom.us/j/98104275024?pwd=RTBvcHNTZ2xaOXRHN1czeS9uZGRqUT09
Meeting ID: 981 0427 5024
Passcode: 239389

By Phone:
1 (669) 900 - 6833
Meeting ID: 981 0427 5024
Passcode: 239389

Written and Verbal Comments

- Members of the public participating virtually will have an opportunity to provide public comments during the meeting under Agenda Item No. 2 and following each agenda item discussion. No prior arrangements are required to be able to make public comment but comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

- Written Comments can also be provided up to one hour prior to the scheduled meeting. Written comments received in advance of the meeting will be read onto the record during the public comment portion when the item is heard. Any portion of your comment extending past three (3) minutes may not be read aloud due to time restrictions but will be made part of the record of proceedings.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Public Presentations

3. Approval of Minutes:
    a. Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2026 Regular Meeting

4. Financial Report
    a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Expense Reports for March 2026 (Koehn)
    b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of March 31, 2026 (Koehn)
    c. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed Budget (Chauhan/Koehn)

5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update (Samuelian)
    a. Update on the Kings Subbasin Annual Report

6. Administrative
    a. Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Update (Chauhan)
    b. Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of North Kings GSA Policy No. 2026-001 – Enforcement Policy (Chauhan)
    c. Domestic Well Mitigation Program Update (Chauhan)
    d. 2026 Well Permitting Update (Chauhan)

7. Workgroup Updates and Actions
    a. Technical Workgroup Update (Claes)

8. Member Agency/Committee Member Reports
    a. Advisory Committee/Member Agency Reports/Updates
        i. Water Supply Update (Claes)
        ii. Others

9. Executive Officer Update (Chauhan)
    a. SGMA Implementation Projects Update
    b. Outreach / External Affairs Update
    c. Representative Monitoring Network Update
    d. Miscellaneous

10. Adjourn

Next Regular Meeting: June 12, 2026

3 (a) – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 10, 2026

MINUTES
(Preliminary – Subject to Revision/Approval at Next Meeting)

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
April 10, 2026

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

**Adam Claes (Fresno Irrigation District)	Kassy Chauhan (NKGSA)
*Nick Torstensen (City of Clovis)	Andrew Aller (NKGSA legal counsel)
*Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno)	Kristen Freberg (City of Clovis)
*Shay Bakman (Bakman Water Company)	Lisa Koehn (Clovis)
	Sayre Miller (Ag)
*Augie Ramirez (Fresno County)	Adan Ortiz (Fresno County)
*Jesus Gonzalez (City of Kerman)	Sean Ray (Bakman Water Company)

** - Committee Chair / *Vice Chair*
* - Voting Representative on Advisory Committee

*<u>**Note:</u> This meeting was conducted in-person at the City of Clovis Public Safety Community Room (1233 Fifth Street, Clovis, CA 93612) as well as via web conference for members of the public wishing to participate remotely.*

Item 1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:31 PM.

Instructions:
Instructions for participation by both remote and in-person attendees were given by Executive Officer Kassy Chauhan. Both written and verbal comments are accepted by all attendees and time will be made after each agenda item for comments to be heard.

Members of the Advisory Committee attended in person and were present/absent as follows:

Agency Name	Present/Absent	Name of Person
Bakman Water Company	Present	Shay Bakman
Biola CSD	Absent	---
City of Clovis	Present	Nick Torstensen
City of Fresno	Present	Dejan Pavic
City of Kerman	Present	Jesus Gonzalez
Fresno County	Present	Augie Ramirez
Fresno Irrigation District	Present	Adam Claes
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Absent	---
Garfield Water District	Absent	---

Item 2. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2026 Meeting

Member Claes made a correction to Item 6a to clarify that the Advisory Committee received training provided by AALRR on the Brown Act per the requirements contained in SB827.

Motion to approve the minutes, with correction noted by Member Claes, made by member Pavic; second by member Bakman. Motion passed unanimously 5-0 with 1 abstaining, and 3 absent.

Item 4. Financial Report

Item 4a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Expense Reports for January and February 2026
(Koehn)

Expenses for January totaled $193,827.01, including payments to attorneys, Bradley & Sons for monitoring wells, Constant Contact, Dumont Printing, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, Provost & Pritchard, and the U.S. Postmaster.

February expenses were $80,463.08, including attorneys, CJ Brown & Company, Constant Contact, FID, Groundwater Resources Association, Intuit QuickBooks, reimbursements to staff, and Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group.

Action on this item was taken in combination with Item 4b below.

Item 4b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of February 28, 2026
(Koehn)

Total assets as of February 28, 2026, are $2,470,215.31. Expenses through February totaled $628,731.33.

Motion to recommend approval of the expense reports and the financial statements made by member Ramirez; second by member Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously 6-0, 3 absent.

Item 4c. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Revised Budget
(Chauhan / Koehn)

There were adjustments to expenses throughout the year, including Kings Basin coordination expenses (decrease), legal expenses (decrease), engineering consultant expenses (increase), and public information expenses (increase). No expenses were charged to the project costs for well registration, saving on expenses for that line item.

Expenses under the previously approved budget were estimated at $1,804,100.00, compared to $1,820,800.67 under the revised budget. Although the estimated expenses have increased, the net change in position actually reflects a savings compared to the original budget due to more interest income than projected.

Motion to approve member Ramirez; second by member Gonzalez. Motion passed unanimously 6-0, 3 absent.

Item 5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update
(Chauhan)

The allocation framework has been accepted by 6 of the 7 Subbasin GSAs.

DWR is reviewing the periodic evaluations and is beginning conferences with some basins. It will likely be several more months before we hear back from DWR.

The annual report was submitted on March 31, 2026, for Water Year 2025.

DWR has met with the points of contact for each of the basins on the land subsidence BMP.

Coordinated work on interconnected surface water with the Madera Subbasin continues.

The domestic well mitigation program is ongoing.

Item 5a. Update on the Kings Subbasin Annual Report

Since 2015, surface water supplies are about 91% of long-term average, and since 2020, the total surface water supplies are well below the long-term average at 82%.

There were no SMC wells below MTs in the Basin (out of the 123 applicable wells in the Basin).

9 wells exceeded MTs for water quality. Only 1 of those wells were in the NKGSA.

The overall change in storage is approximately 160,000 AF.

Item 6. Administrative

6a-1. Consider Approval of Official NKGSA Advisory Committee Roster
(Chauhan)

This item was added to the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

There are updates to the roster to add an alternate, Mr. Adan Ortiz, for the County of Fresno and to change the alternates for City of Fresno, including Mr. Paul Amico.

Motion to approve the updated roster made by member Ramirez; second by member Pavic. Motion approved unanimously 6-0, 3 absent.

Item 6a. Discussion / Possible Action – Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Update
(Chauhan)

To date, there are 8,213 wells registered. The late registration fee of $100 per wellhead began on February 1st. About $1,600 has been collected since the fee was implemented. Most of those registering after the January 30, 2026, deadline are requesting a waiver from the late registration fee due to not knowing about the requirement to register before the deadline.

Phase 2 efforts are underway, including establishing a “candidate list” of parcels of 5 acres or more with no registered wells. It currently has about 700 landowners on it. Notices will be sent to those landowners starting in June 2026. Parcels determined to have no wells will be recorded in the database so it is not continuously revisited.

Item 6b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of North Kings GSA Policy No. 2026-001 – Enforcement Policy
(Chauhan)

Other GSAs already have enforcement policies in place. For the NKGSA, it seemed most beneficial to have a broad enforcement policy that included well registration and other future policies. This would allow for easier adoption of future policies so that enforcement policies can be incorporated by reference.

A copy of the draft enforcement policy was included in the meeting packet.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure compliance with policies and rules adopted by the NKGSA Board of Directors to implement the GSP. The guiding principles are ensuring compliance and consistent, timely, and progressive enforcement. The policy would apply to landowners or the regulated entity being affected (including member agencies).

The enforcement process would include the following steps:
1. Written or email notification of the potential violation
2. Official notice of violation with 30 days to comply
3. Enforcement order, including fees

This procedure is meant to provide for board appeal, requests for more time, and progressive enforcement. Fees are established in the Water Code.

Member Torstensen asked about the possibility of creating individual enforcement policies for each policy, given the broad applicability of the current proposal. Kassy stated that the proposed policy would allow for discretion in each circumstance but provides the framework for all enforcement for landowners or regulating entities violating NKGSA policies, GSP or rules/regulations.

The decision was made to allow more time for each member to review the policy more thoroughly and revisit an action on the item at a later time.

Item 6c. Domestic Well Mitigation Program Update
(Chauhan)

The program is up and running and continues to receive applications. To date, no domestic well mitigation applications have been approved due to not meeting the eligibility requirements.

Item 6d. 2026 Well Permitting Update
(Chauhan)

Well permit applications are currently trending low through February of last year, and updated numbers for March have not been received yet.

Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 7a. Technical Workgroup Update
(Claes)

The Technical Workgroup met recently to discuss the enforcement policy. Following the resolution of that issue, the individual member agency allocations will be the primary focus.

Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports

Item 8a. Advisory Committee/Member Agency Reports/Updates

i. Water Supply Update
(Claes)

March did not follow typical patterns. Millerton Lake has been rising due to runoff but has now stabilized. Pine Flat is currently at about 800,000 AF and has also leveled out. The Tulare Basin 6-Station Precipitation Index shows that for the first time in 104 years, March had 0 inches of rain. April will potentially show some improvement.

The volume of runoff in March is projected to be about half of the total that will occur between March and May. The Northern Sierra showed about 5% of the April 1st average in snow water content. The Kings River shows 45% of the April 1st average, so it is currently the highest in California.

ii. Others
There were no further reports.

Item 9. Executive Officer Update
(Chauhan)

Item 9a. SGMA Implementation Projects Update
The project spreadsheet was recently updated in coordination with all of the member agencies. The project solicitation and project and management actions (PMA) tracking spreadsheet are going to be combined in the future in order to streamline the process for both.

Prop 4 funds will be coming out in 2026/2027 and awards in 2027/2028, so member agencies are encouraged to be ready.

Item 9b. Outreach / External Affairs Update
Social media and website presence continues to be active, and public engagement has exponentially increased as a result of the well registration program.

Item 9c. Representative Monitoring Network Update

All 10 monitoring wells have been constructed and all of them are connected to the telemetry system. Planning has begun for the next phase of new monitoring wells, which is currently focused on identifying 10-12 sites for the new wells.

The well permit for the DWR TSS well has finally come through, and construction is expected to begin later in April.

Item 9d. Miscellaneous
An Assembly bill has been introduced to address adjudications and is currently being monitored.

The interested party invoices have gone out as of this week. Any funds generated from those invoices will be applied to next year's budget per the JPA agreement.

Item 10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:53 PM.

Next Meeting: May 8, 2026

4 (a-b) – FINANCIAL REPORT – Expense Report for March 2026; Financial Statements as of March 31, 2026

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM NO:	**4 (a-b)**
Executive Officer:	KDC

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Chair and Advisory Committee Members

FROM: De Ann Stork – Fiscal Agent

DATE: May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Financial Update

ATTACHMENTS: (A) NKGSA Expense Report – March 2026
(B) Financial Statements as of March 31, 2026

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

RECOMMENDATION

For the Advisory Committee to recommend approval of the Expense Reports for March 2026, and Financial Statements as of March 31, 2026, to the NKGSA Board of Directors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The fiscal agent, DeAnn Stork, has prepared the monthly expense reports for March 2026 (Attachment A) and the financial statements as of March 31, 2026 (Attachment B). All expenses are within the budget amounts and no unexpected expenses were noted. As previously reported, the public information expenses, through March 31, 2026, exceed the budgeted amounts. The Board of Directors approved a revised FY 2025-2026 budget at its April 23, board meeting. The updated budget amounts will be reflected on the financial statements for April 2026.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact is shown on the attached reports. Total expenses are in line with the amounts included in the NKGSA 2025-2026 Budget including a call on reserves to cover expenses for the dedicated monitoring network efforts. However, some line items have exceeded the budget amount and a revised budget was approved by the Board of Directors on April 23, and will be used starting with the April 2026 financial statements.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The reports represent expenses and revenues for the NKGSA for this reporting period.

ACTIONS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The expense reports and financial statements will be provided to the NKGSA Board of Directors for approval at its next board meeting scheduled for May 28, 2026, or the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Prepared by: De Ann Stork

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Transaction List with Splits

March 2026

DATE	NUM	NAME	MEMO/DESCRIPTION	ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo					
03/01/2026	780588	Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo		Accounts Payable	3,153.15
			February 2026 Legal	Legal	3,153.15
Constant Contact, Inc.					
03/25/2026		Constant Contact, Inc.		Accounts Payable	91.00
				Public Information:PR - General Outreach	91.00
Falcon Security Services Inc					
03/01/2026	26812	Falcon Security Services Inc		Accounts Payable	104.00
			Unarmed Guard Services	Professional Services:Security Services	104.00
Intuit QuickBooks Online					
03/15/2026	10001476464848	Intuit QuickBooks Online		Accounts Payable	115.00
				Office Supplies	115.00
Kings River Conservation District					
03/23/2026	5221	Kings River Conservation District		Accounts Payable	1,935.32
			Completion and Delivery of 2025 Subsidence Monitoring Data	Project Costs:Well Monitoring	1,935.32
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group					
03/17/2026	128941	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	941.30
			Dom Well Mit Prog Admin 002	Project Costs:Well Mitigation	941.30
03/17/2026	128943	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	6,811.29
			Kings Basin Coord COR	Kings Basin Coordination	378.76
			Kings Basin Coord GWP	Kings Basin Coordination	1,347.50
			Kings Basin Coord REP	Kings Basin Coordination	5,085.03
03/18/2026	129015	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	28,275.55
			On-going GEN	Professional Services:Engineering Consultant	7,490.70
			On-going MON	Project Costs:Well Monitoring	7,044.35
			On-going PUB	Public Information:PR - General Outreach	8,380.00
			On-going REG	Public Information:PR - Well Registration	780.90
			On-going SUP	Public Information:PR - Well Registration Support Staff	4,579.60

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Balance Sheet
As of March 31, 2026

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
Five Star Bank Checking		124,766.42
Five Star Bank Money Market		1,704,729.63
LAIF		566,935.45
Total Bank Accounts	**$**	**2,396,431.50**
Total Current Assets	**$**	**2,396,431.50**
TOTAL ASSETS	**$**	**2,396,431.50**
LIABILITIES & NET POSITION		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
Accounts Payable		41,207.61
Total Accounts Payable	**$**	**41,207.61**
Total Current Liabilities	**$**	**41,207.61**
Total Liabilities	**$**	**41,207.61**
Net Position		
Member Agency Participation Balances		250,573.58
Reserves - Legal Fund		500,000.00
Reserves - Well Mitigation Program		456,594.74
Reserves - Well Monitoring Program		31,006.06
Net Income		1,117,049.51
Total Net Position	**$**	**2,355,223.89**
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET POSITION	**$**	**2,396,431.50**

Wednesday, Apr 15, 2026 02:20:10 PM GMT-7 - Accrual Basis

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Budget vs. Actuals
July 2025 - March 2026

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
Income				
Interested Party Contribution	7,113.20	7,113.20	0.00	100.00%
Member/Contracting Entity			0.00	
Bakman Water Company	7,421.02	7,421.02	0.00	100.00%
Biola Community Services Distr	427.63	427.63	0.00	100.00%
City of Clovis	65,519.06	65,519.06	0.00	100.00%
City of Fresno	331,491.51	331,491.51	0.00	100.00%
City of Kerman	7,768.87	7,768.87	0.00	100.00%
County of Fresno	330,389.79	330,389.79	0.00	100.00%
Fresno Irrigation District	963,870.74	963,870.74	0.00	100.00%
Garfield Water District	6,725.31	6,725.31	0.00	100.00%
International Water District	2,782.87	2,782.87	0.00	100.00%
Total Member/Contracting Entity	**$ 1,716,396.80**	**$ 1,716,396.80**	**$ 0.00**	**100.00%**
Well Registration Penalties	2,700.00		2,700.00	
Total Income	**$ 1,726,210.00**	**$ 1,723,510.00**	**$ 2,700.00**	**100.16%**
Expenses				
Audit Expense	5,370.00	6,000.00	-630.00	89.50%
Dues and Subscriptions	3,443.17	3,315.00	128.17	103.87%
Insurance	2,057.50	2,085.00	-27.50	98.68%
Kings Basin Coordination	37,135.30	100,000.00	-62,864.70	37.14%
Legal	11,388.32	50,000.00	-38,611.68	22.78%
Office Supplies	1,040.99	1,500.00	-459.01	69.40%
Professional Services		0.00	0.00	
Engineering Consultant	106,536.08	100,000.00	6,536.08	106.54%
Security Services	354.00	1,200.00	-846.00	29.50%
Total Professional Services	**$ 106,890.08**	**$ 101,200.00**	**$ 5,690.08**	**105.62%**
Project Costs			0.00	
Well Mitigation	10,309.72	1,000,000.00	-989,690.28	1.03%
Well Monitoring	442,974.24	200,000.00	242,974.24	221.49%
Well Monitoring Reserves	-233,994.57		-233,994.57	
Well Registration		30,000.00	-30,000.00	0.00%
Total Project Costs	**$ 219,289.39**	**$ 1,230,000.00**	**-$ 1,010,710.61**	**17.83%**
Public Information		0.00	0.00	
PR - General Outreach	58,890.97	90,000.00	-31,109.03	65.43%
PR - Well Registration	78,329.34	40,000.00	38,329.34	195.82%
PR - Well Registration Support Staff	77,567.60	50,000.00	27,567.60	155.14%
Total Public Information	**$ 214,787.91**	**$ 180,000.00**	**$ 34,787.91**	**119.33%**
Staff Expense			0.00	
Executive Officer	58,067.48	100,000.00	-41,932.52	58.07%
Supporting Staff (FID)	10,788.37	30,000.00	-19,211.63	35.96%
Total Staff Expense	**$ 68,855.85**	**$ 130,000.00**	**-$ 61,144.15**	**52.97%**
Total Expenses	**$ 670,258.51**	**$ 1,804,100.00**	**-$ 1,133,841.49**	**37.15%**
Net Operating Income	**$ 1,055,951.49**	**-$ 80,590.00**	**$ 1,136,541.49**	**-1310.28%**
Other Income				
Interest Income	61,543.42	10,000.00	51,543.42	615.43%
Unrealized Gain/Loss	-445.40	0.00	-445.40	
Total Other Income	**$ 61,098.02**	**$ 10,000.00**	**$ 51,098.02**	**610.98%**
Change in Net Position	**$ 1,117,049.51**	**-$ 70,590.00**	**$ 1,187,639.51**	**-1582.45%**

4 (c) – FINANCIAL REPORT – Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM NO:	**4 (c)**
Executive Officer:	*KDC*

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Chair and Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Kassy D. Chauhan – Executive Officer

DATE: May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

ATTACHMENTS: (A) FY 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

RECOMMENDATION

For the Advisory Committee to recommend to the NKGSA Board of Directors to adopt the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA) Board of Directors approves the operating budget annually for the NKGSA. In coordination with the prior Administration/Fiscal Committee Chair, Lisa Koehn, and the Fiscal Agent, DeAnn Stork, the proposed budget for FY 2026-2027 has been prepared. The FY 2026-2027 proposed budget includes considerations for continued Kings Subbasin coordination efforts, project costs including $500,000 to fund the third year of the domestic well mitigation costs, $750,000 for construction of additional dedicated representative monitoring wells, continued outreach and engagement with stakeholders, and other routine administrative tasks. Additionally, the proposed budget includes engineering consultant technical services for ongoing technical support including monitoring network design.

Income:

The North Kings GSA typically assesses each member agency for their portion of the budget based on the acreage in their service area as previously approved by the Board of Directors beginning February 1, 2020. The FY 2026-2027 budget is proposed to be $1,868,100.00 in expenses with $1,965,297.00 being generated from member agency participation amounts and $10,000.00 in other revenue from late registration fees and penalties.

Non-operating income is anticipated from the interested parties who were invoiced based on their acreage within the NKGSA boundary or a minimum of $250.00 in April 2026. Interested parties' voluntary contributions collected in FY 2025-2026 were applied to the FY 2026-2027 budget as discussed below.

Expenses:

Professional Services:

The total expenses for engineering consultant are expected to be $180,000.00 which includes engineering consultant services to assist with the following:

Phase	Description
General	Allocation by agency setting, SMC resetting, ISW assistance, general support, meeting attendance, SubCurrent Support.
Monitoring	Monitoring well bid document preparation, location evaluation, survey, construction and observation.

Kings Subbasin coordination efforts including development of the annual report are expected to be $70,000.00 in FY 2026-2027. The costs for the Kings Subbasin coordination activities are split amongst the seven GSAs within the Kings Subbasin. These costs include basin coordination, groundwater pumping estimations and the annual report.

Public Information/Public Affairs:

The Public Information line item includes all public affairs and outreach/stakeholder engagement expenses for the Provost & Pritchard External Affairs Group to be able to continue to provide assistance with maintaining the website, social media management, creation of news releases and development of resources for the stakeholders in the NKGSA. This line item also includes the costs associated with the upkeep of the web platform, the email distribution software (Constant Contacts), hosting of webinars and distribution of Stakeholder resources. The total proposed budget for these activities is $180,000.00 which includes funds for continued support on well outreach activities including tracking and assistance with the notices of violation to landowners who have failed to register their wells.

Staff Expense:

The FY 2026-2027 proposed budget includes expenses for the executive officer ($80,000.00) and supporting staff ($30,000.00). Support staff includes costs for FID staff for NKGSA activities including costs for the fiscal agent, executive assistant and engineering technicians. The staff expenses are anticipated to be the same as those approved in the FY 2025-2026 budget and will include additional work related to the mandatory well registration program including assisting with well registration and analyzing the well registration information, outreach to domestic well owners, responding to and tracking the well permit applications received from the well permitting agencies, equipping monitoring wells with data loggers and responding to inquiries from the media and agencies.

Project Costs:

The project costs are split amongst three priority projects for the NKGSA: the domestic well mitigation program, the representative monitoring network improvements, and the well registration program. A total of $1.25M is included for this budget line item. Each is discussed further below:

Domestic Well Mitigation Program:

The staff and technical workgroup recommend Year 3 of the domestic well mitigation program to be funded at $500k, which is less than the $1M originally recommended to build the domestic well mitigation program reserve. The reduction in year 3 funding is primarily due to less than projected demand for the program. Since the program was launched in October 2024, a total of 13 applications have been submitted but none have been approved due to not meeting the eligibility criteria. As such, it is not expected there will be significant expenses in FY 2026-2027. Each year, unused funds from the domestic well mitigation program line item are rolled into a revolving fund for the domestic well mitigation program. To date, the reserve account has $456,594.74 in it and much of the $1M approved in the FY 2025-2026 budget will be rolled over into the reserve account bringing the total balance for domestic well registration to almost $1.5M.

For Year 3, staff worked with member agencies to develop a cost share that is based on 25% of cost being split according to existing percentages for administrative aspects of program; 25% based on nested jurisdiction; 35% based on 2024 pumpage (cause) and 15% based on permitting agency – Fresno County. The total amount of funds collected is proposed to be $500k which will bring the total funds available for domestic well mitigation to almost $2M which should be more than adequate to cover mitigation of domestic wells in a single year.

Monitoring Network Improvements:

Staff and the Technical Workgroup are recommending the inclusion of funds to continue with upgrading and improving the representative monitoring network. The proposed amount included for the monitoring network improvements is $750,000.000 which will allow for the addition of about 10 more dedicated monitoring wells in the representative monitoring network within the NKGSA boundary. The overall monitoring network

improvement program includes the drilling of 48 dedicated monitoring wells over the next four-to-five-year period to create a network on a 3-mile grid, and commenced in FY 2024-2025. As has been previously discussed, the monitoring network provides critical information on groundwater levels and bad readings or no readings at these monitoring wells during the dedicated monitoring periods is viewed as a well that has declined to below the minimum threshold per the Department of Water Resources. The investment into the monitoring network helps to ensure the data is reliable and a good representation of the groundwater level in that section within the North Kings GSA.

Coalition Participation:

Staff is recommending a new line item for coalition participation to allow for the North Kings GSA to become a supporting member of the Valley Ag Water Coalition ($3,000 per year) and the California Groundwater Association ($500 per year initial contribution level). These two organizations are instrumental in fighting against changes to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and other groundwater legislation that could negatively impact the North Kings GSA from being able to successfully implement its GSP and reaching sustainability. The cost to join these two groups requires minimal investment and after reviewing several alternatives including possibly securing a consultant to advocate independently for the North Kings GSA, staff has come to the conclusion it would be best to join the efforts of VAWC and CGA at this time. The total investment of $3,500 in FY 2026-2027 will provide good representation on pending groundwater legislation and regulatory issues.

Member Agency Assessments:

The member agency assessments are calculated based on percentages determined by the overall acreage in the NKGSA boundary. The percentages were revised in February 2020, based on the approval of the NKGSA Board. NKGSA Policy ACCT- 506 NKGSA Operating Reserves Policy requires the NKGSA maintain a minimum operating reserves equivalent to one year of operating expenses. If the reserves are used as approved by the Board of Directors, a plan will be developed and implemented to replenish the funds used.

Interested party voluntary contributions received from Malaga County Water District, Pinedale County Water District and EJ Gallo Winery in FY 2025-2026. As approved by the Board of Directors, voluntary contributions from the Pinedale County Water District were agreed to be credited to the City of Fresno since the Pinedale County Water District acreage is included in calculation for the City of Fresno's participation amount. Likewise, fees collected from Malaga County Water District were approved to be credited to Fresno Irrigation District given FID's participation amount includes the acreage within the Malaga County Water District. Should any voluntary contributions received from the California State University, Fresno, those fees would be credited to FID since they are charged for the CSUF acreage in their member agency participation amount. The voluntary contribution of $250.00 provided by EJ Gallo Winery is identified as additional income and credited to City of Fresno since they are located within FID's service area.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 shows a total income from member agency contributions of $1,965,297.80. The total expenses for FY 2026-2027 are estimated to be $1,868,100.00. Excess funds collected for the domestic well mitigation program expenses in FY 2025-2026 will be rolled over into the Domestic Well Mitigation Program Revolving Funds and used to cover future year's domestic well mitigation program expenses per the NKGSA Policy for the Domestic Well Mitigation Program Revolving Fund (NKGSA-ACCT-511).

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The proposed budget was prepared for consideration by the Advisory Committee and the NKGSA Board of Directors to manage the finances for FY 2026-2027. The total expenses have increased given the need to fully fund the domestic well mitigation program in FY 2026-2027, and the need to continue to make improvements to the representative monitoring network.

ACTIONS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The proposed budget will be submitted to the Board for approval at its regular board meeting on May 28, 2026.

Prepared by: Kassy D. Chauhan

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Original Budget

	Jul '25 - Mar '26 Actual	4/24/2026 Approved 2025-2026 Budget	% of Budget	5/28/2026 Proposed 2026-2027 Budget	% of Budget
Income					
Interested Party Contribution	$ 7,113.20	$ 7,113.20	100.00%	$ 7,113.20	100.00%
Member/Contracting Entity					
Bakman Water Company	$ 7,421.02	$ 7,421.02	100.00%	$ 12,630.71	58.75%
Biola Community Services Distr	$ 427.63	$ 427.63	100.00%	$ 467.26	91.52%
City of Clovis	$ 65,519.06	$ 65,519.06	100.00%	$ 90,175.07	72.66%
City of Fresno	$ 331,491.51	$ 331,491.51	100.00%	$ 432,323.94	76.68%
City of Kerman	$ 7,768.87	$ 7,768.87	100.00%	$ 13,457.12	57.73%
County of Fresno	$ 330,389.79	$ 330,389.79	100.00%	$ 343,174.07	96.28%
Fresno Irrigation District	$ 963,870.74	$ 963,870.74	100.00%	$ 1,042,916.54	92.42%
Garfield Water District	$ 6,725.31	$ 6,725.31	100.00%	$ 10,766.77	62.46%
International Water District	$ 2,782.87	$ 2,782.87	100.00%	$ 4,536.32	61.35%
Total Member/Contracting Entity	**$ 1,716,396.80**	**$ 1,716,396.80**	**100.00%**	**$ 1,950,447.80**	**88.00%**
Well Registration Penalties	$ 2,700.00	$ -	100.00%	$ 10,000.00	27.00%
Total Income	**$ 1,726,210.00**	**$ 1,723,510.00**	**100.16%**	**$ 1,967,561.00**	**87.73%**
Expenses					
Audit Expense	$ 5,370.00	$ 6,000.00	89.50%	$ 6,000.00	89.50%
Dues and Subscriptions	$ 3,443.17	$ 3,443.17	100.00%	$ 3,500.00	98.38%
Insurance	$ 2,057.50	$ 2,057.50	100.00%	$ 2,500.00	82.30%
Kings Basin Coordination	$ 37,135.30	$ 60,000.00	61.89%	$ 100,000.00	37.14%
Legal	$ 11,388.32	$ 20,000.00	56.94%	$ 40,000.00	28.47%
Office Supplies	$ 1,040.99	$ 1,600.00	65.06%	$ 1,600.00	65.06%
Professional Services					
Engineering Consultant	$ 106,536.08	$ 170,000.00	62.67%	$ 170,000.00	62.67%
Security Services	$ 354.00	$ 1,200.00	29.50%	$ 1,000.00	35.40%
Total Professional Services	**$ 106,890.08**	**$ 171,200.00**	**62.44%**	**$ 171,000.00**	**62.51%**
Project Costs					
Well Mitigation	$ 10,309.72	$ 1,000,000.00	1.03%	$ 500,000.00	2.06%
Well Monitoring	$ 442,974.24	$ 465,000.00	95.26%	$ 750,000.00	59.06%
Well Monitoring Reserves	$ (242,974.24)	$ (265,000.00)		$ -	
Well Registration	$ -	$ -	0.00%	$ -	0.00%
Total Project Costs	**$ 210,309.72**	**$ 1,200,000.00**	**17.53%**	**$ 1,250,000.00**	**16.83%**
Public Information			0%		0%
PR - General Outreach	$ 58,890.97	$ 78,000.00	75.50%	$ 100,000.00	58.89%
PR - Well Registration	$ 78,329.34	$ 80,500.00	97.30%	$ 25,000.00	313.32%
PR - Well Registration Support Staff	$ 77,567.60	$ 98,000.00	79.15%	$ 25,000.00	310.27%
Total Public Information	**$ 214,787.91**	**$ 256,500.00**	**83.74%**	**$ 150,000.00**	**143.19%**
Staff Expense					
Executive Officer	$ 58,067.48	$ 80,000.00	72.58%	$ 100,000.00	58.07%
Supporting Staff (FID)	$ 10,788.37	$ 20,000.00	53.94%	$ 30,000.00	35.96%
Total Staff Expense	**$ 68,855.85**	**$ 100,000.00**	**68.86%**	**$ 130,000.00**	**52.97%**
Total Expenses	**$ 661,278.84**	**$ 1,820,800.67**	**36.32%**	**$ 1,854,600.00**	**35.66%**
Net Operating Income	**$ 1,064,931.16**	**$ (97,290.67)**	**-1094.59%**	**$ 112,961.00**	**942.74%**
Other Income					
Interest Income	$ 61,543.42	$ 55,777.81	110.34%	$ 75,000.00	82.06%
Unrealized Gain/Loss	$ (445.40)	$ -	100.00%	$ -	100.00%
Total Other Income	**$ 61,098.02**	**$ 55,777.81**	**109.54%**	**$ 75,000.00**	**81.46%**
Change in Net Position	**$ 1,126,029.18**	**$ (41,512.86)**	**-2712.48%**	**$ 187,961.00**	**599.08%**

6 (a) – GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FACILITY REGISTRATION UPDATE

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM NO:	**6 (a)**
Executive Officer:	KDC

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Chair and Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Kassy Chauhan – Executive Officer

DATE: May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Update and Next Steps

ATTACHMENTS: None

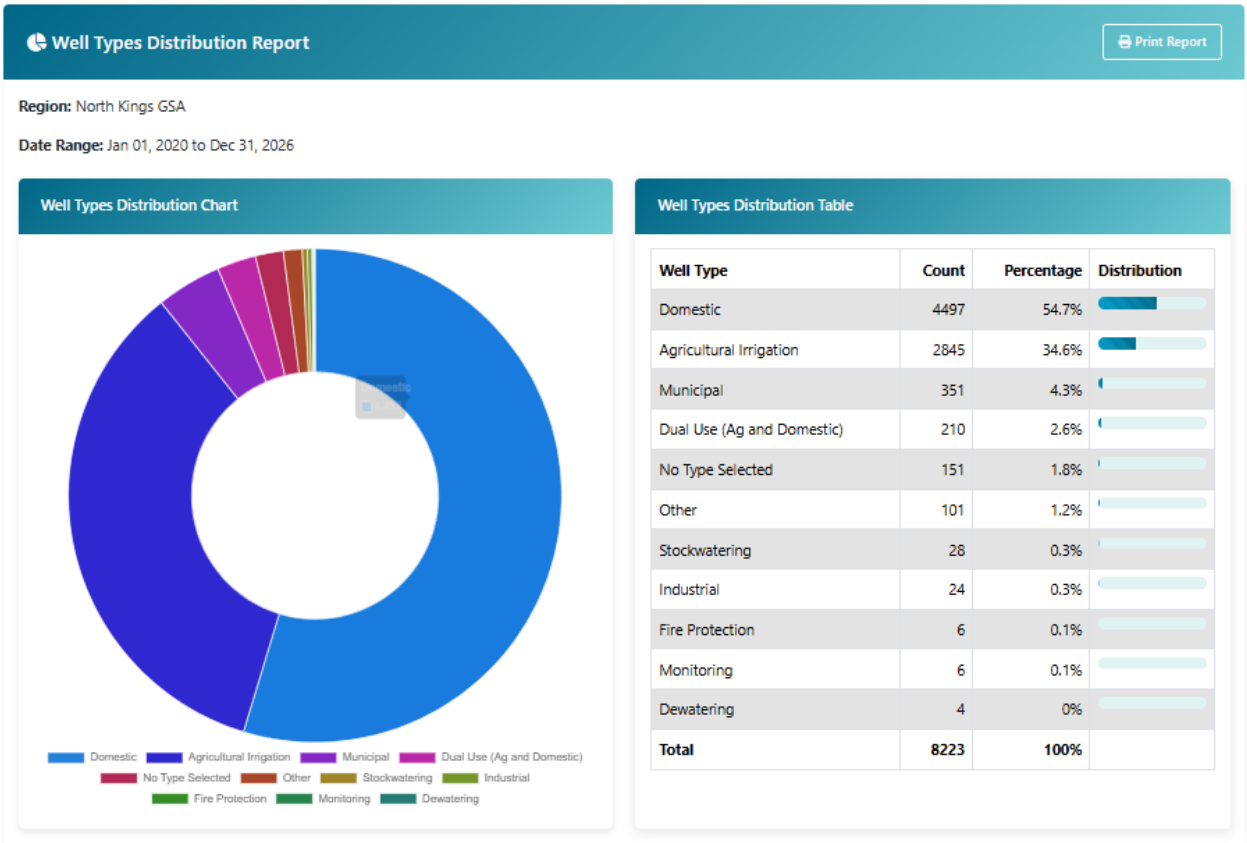
CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The NKGSA Board of Directors unanimously approved the NKGSA Policy 2025-001 Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Policy at its April 24, 2025, board meeting requiring all wells within the NKGSA boundary to be registered by November 30, 2025. At that time, the number of registered wells was approximately 5,700 wells (as of November 30, 2025) in the North Kings GSA. At the December 10, 2025, special board meeting, the North Kings GSA Board of Directors approved additional time for landowners to register their wells and established the extended deadline of January 30, 2026, with the late registration fee set to start on February 1, 2026.

To date (as of the writing of this report), a total of 8,223 wells have been registered. The following shows the wells registered based on the well type:



Well Types Distribution Report

Print Report

Region: North Kings GSA

Date Range: Jan 01, 2020 to Dec 31, 2026

Well Types Distribution Chart

Well Types Distribution Table

Well Type	Count	Percentage	Distribution
Domestic	4497	54.7%	
Agricultural Irrigation	2845	34.6%	
Municipal	351	4.3%	
Dual Use (Ag and Domestic)	210	2.6%	
No Type Selected	151	1.8%	
Other	101	1.2%	
Stockwatering	28	0.3%	
Industrial	24	0.3%	
Fire Protection	6	0.1%	
Monitoring	6	0.1%	
Dewatering	4	0%	
Total	**8223**	**100%**	

Starting February 1, the late registration fee was enacted and is currently $100 per wellhead. Late registration fees can be paid online through the SubCurrent application or in person at the North Kings GSA via cash, check or money order. Landowners are required to pay the registration fee prior to their registration being considered complete. There is an option to request a waiver for the late registration fee. All waiver requests are reviewed and to date, the primary reason why a waiver is being requested is due to late notice or becoming aware of the registration requirement after the registration deadline. To date, 139 waivers have been granted and a total of $3,000.00 has been received in late registration fees.

The North Kings GSA set up a booth to assist landowners attending the FID grower meetings with registering their wells at meetings held on April 22, 23 and 29, 2026.

Next Steps:

With 8,223 wells registered with the North Kings GSA, staff has transitioned to identifying parcels where there is likely a well but no information has been provided to the North Kings GSA. A list of parcels that are 5 acres or more in size with no wells registered has been generated and there are about 790 unique landowners of those parcels. A notice will be sent to landowners advising them of the well registration requirement and providing information on how to register their wells to avoid additional fees. Staff expects to send the notices out in batches and is working to update SubCurrent to allow landowners to

register wells on parcels that have them and also indicate which parcels have no wells located on them.

Staff has also drafted an enforcement policy for the Advisory Committee and Board of Directors to consider adopting as previously directed by the North Kings GSA Advisory Committee. The Enforcement Policy will need to be adopted and effective prior to beginning to charging non-compliant landowners for failing to register their wells within the allowable time frame. The draft enforcement policy allows for progressive enforcement the longer the landowner does not comply with the registration requirement. It is expected a draft enforcement policy will be ready for possible action at the June or July 2026 Advisory Committee and North Kings GSA Board meeting.

Certified mail will be sent to landowners suspected to be out of compliance with the well registration requirements to help ensure delivery of the notices.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds generated from late fees and penalties will be kept in a separate revenue line item on the budget. The Board will have discretion on how those funds are distributed and used to support North Kings GSA's implementation of its GSP.

Prepared by: Kassy Chauhan

6 (b) – NORTH KINGS GSA POLICY NO. 2026-001 – Enforcement Policy

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM NO: **6 (b)**
Executive Officer: KDC

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Chair and Advisory Committee Members

FROM: Kassy Chauhan, P.E.

DATE: May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Discuss NKGSA Policy NKGSA-2026-001 Enforcement and Penalty Policy

ATTACHMENTS: (A) NKGSA-2026-001 – Draft Enforcement and Penalty Policy

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

RECOMMENDATION

For the Advisory Committee to recommend approval of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA) Policy NKGSA-2026-001: Enforcement and Penalty Policy (Attachment A) to the NKGSA Board of Directors for adoption at the May 28, 2026, board meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The North Kings GSA Board of Directors has authority to pass resolutions, policies and adopt rules and regulations while implementing the groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) and to reach sustainability. The goal of the Enforcement Policy (Policy) is to promote compliance with the policies, orders, ordinances, resolutions, decisions, rules and/or regulations adopted by the North Kings GSA Board of Directors and applicable to landowners and facilities within the North Kings GSA boundary through the adoption and application of consistent enforcement practices. Staff have developed a policy which is intended to cover future enforcement actions including Notices of Violation and Enforcement Orders rather than having to address enforcement in each new policy that is developed. As such, the draft Policy is robust and designed to serve the North Kings

GSA for all future enforcement efforts for landowners or entities failing to comply with the North Kings GSA resolutions, policies, rules and regulations.

Member agencies have provided feedback and comments on the draft policy and the version included in Attachment A represents the latest draft of the policy. Additional edits may be needed prior to adoption pending additional reviews by some member agencies.

NKGSA-2026-001

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure compliance with policies and rules adopted by the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (North Kings GSA) Board of Directors and to provide deterrence to violations through enforcement actions. This Enforcement Policy (Policy) will: 1) establish guiding principles for the North Kings GSA approach to enforcement and setting penalties; 2) establish a standardized enforcement framework; 3) authorize the North Kings GSA Executive Officer to propose enforcement recommendations, subject to Board approval; 4) address other actions to advance the North Kings GSA's goal of consistent, fair, firm, meaningful, and timely enforcement that is transparent to regulated persons and entities ("landowners"), while conforming to due process and other legal obligations; and 5) establish civil penalty guidelines for violations which are authorized by Section 10732 (a)(1) and (2).

The draft Policy was developed with input from the NKGSA Technical Workgroup with representation from each of the member agencies and stakeholders to ensure appropriate considerations were given when the Policy was being developed. Legal counsel has reviewed the draft Policy and has found the draft Policy to be compliant with applicable legal requirements.

IMPLEMENTATION:

In anticipation of the Policy being adopted, staff is anticipating utilizing the notices of violations authority to follow up with landowners who have wells that are not registered with the North Kings GSA per the requirement established by the Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Requirements per Policy No. 2025-001. Since May 2025, landowners have been noticed of the requirement and there are several wells that have not been registered. Parcels greater than 5 acres in size with active agricultural activity will be identified and be candidates for the first round of notices of violations. Landowners will have 90 days from the receipt of the notice of violation to register their wells with the North Kings GSA or face civil penalties as described in the Policy.

PROGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT:

Per the draft Policy, there will be multiple types of enforcement available for use in the event landowners do not comply following the initial written notice or email. The first would be the Notice of Violation which if complied with on the first violation would only include the late registration fee of $100 per wellhead for not complying with the well registration requirements. A second notice of violation will be sent with a $500 penalty in addition to the late fees and a requirement to comply within 90 days. The third violation and enforcement order could result in fees up to $1,000.00 per day plus $100 for every day on which the violation continues. All enforcement actions will be documented per the

Policy and will be subject to approval by the Board of Directors. Additionally, all landowners in receipt of an enforcement action from the North Kings GSA will be afforded an appeal option to appeal directly to the North Kings GSA Board of Directors for further consideration. The penalties are consistent with what is allowed in Water Code Section 10732 (a) (1) and (2) and described in Section 5 of the draft Policy.

FISCAL IMPACT

Implementation of NKGSA-2026-001 Enforcement and Penalty Policy provides the necessary tools to staff to be able to ensure compliance with its groundwater sustainability plan (GSP), orders, ordinances, resolutions, policies, decisions, rules and/or regulations in a fair and equitable manner and provide a deterrent to violations. While the goal is to ensure compliance, all fees collected from enforcement actions will be implemented to offset expenses associated with implementation of the groundwater sustainability plan and related expenses. Staff hope that landowners will comply without having to issue enforcement orders with heavy civil penalties associated with them. When civil action is needed, there will be legal and administrative expenses associated with the process and staff will seek to have those expenses covered by the named landowner.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The NKGSA is charged with managing the groundwater locally to prevent the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) from taking over the management of the groundwater. The NKGSA Board of Directors approves the GSP, and policies/rules/regulations needed to achieve groundwater sustainability. Cooperation by all affected landowners and entities is needed to be successful and to ensure the best data is available to make good, local groundwater management decisions. As such, staff need enforcement tools to address landowner who are not complying with the requirements and seeks to ensure all enforcement actions are done in a fair and equitable manner per the Policy, and allow the landowner an opportunity to appeal to the Board given their specific situations.

If approved, staff will use information in the Policy when notifying landowners of their potential failure to register their wells and what additional enforcement and penalties could result from continued non-compliance. The Board will have discretion on amending the Policy in the future, if needed.

ACTIONS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The NKGSA Board of Directors will consider adoption of NKGSA Policy NKGSA-2026-001 at the May 28, 2026, board meeting.

Prepared by: Kassy D. Chauhan

Policy No: NKGSA – 2026-001
Policy Title: Enforcement and Penalty Policy
Board Approval Date:
Policy Effective Date:

1.0 Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this policy is to ensure compliance with policies and rules adopted by the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (North Kings GSA) Board of Directors and to provide deterrence to violations through enforcement actions. This Enforcement Policy (Policy) will: 1) establish guiding principles for the North Kings GSA approach to enforcement and setting penalties; 2) establish a standardized enforcement framework; 3) authorize the North Kings GSA Executive Officer to propose enforcement recommendations, subject to Board approval; 4) address other actions to advance the North Kings GSA's goal of consistent, fair, firm, meaningful, and timely enforcement that is transparent to regulated persons and entities ("landowners"), while conforming to due process and other legal obligations; and 5) establish civil penalty guidelines for violations.

The goals of this Policy are to promote compliance with the policies, orders, ordinances, resolutions, decisions, rules and/or regulations adopted by the North Kings GSA Board of Directors and applicable to landowners and facilities within the North Kings GSA boundary through the adoption and application of consistent enforcement practices and to develop a sufficient record that ensures landowners subject to enforcement receive due process per SGMA (e.g., notice and an opportunity to be heard). The North Kings GSA intends for this Policy to promote a consistent approach to enforcement actions, to make enforcement a high priority, and to promote a culture of compliance within the North Kings GSA.

2.0 Background

The North Kings GSA is responsible for managing the groundwater within its boundary and mitigating for the overdraft conditions per the approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). To best manage the groundwater within the boundary, the North Kings GSA Board of Directors has adopted policies establishing requirements for landowners and facilities within the North Kings GSA boundary.

SGMA grants authority to groundwater sustainability agencies to *adopt rules, regulations, ordinances, and resolutions for the purpose* of reaching sustainability within the groundwater sustainability agency boundary (Section 10725.2, Water Code). Additionally, SGMA provides authority for groundwater sustainability agencies enforcement powers for any person who violates any rule, regulation, or resolution adopted pursuant to Section 10725.2 (Section 10732 (a) (2), Water Code). The civil penalties shall not exceed one

thousand dollars ($1,000) plus one hundred dollars ($100) for each additional day on which the violation continues if the person fails to comply within 30 days after the groundwater sustainability agency notifies the person of the violation. SGMA also allows for the action to be taken up in the superior court to determine whether a violation occurred and to impose civil penalties.

This Policy applies to the North Kings GSA's groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) and all North Kings GSA policies, rules, ordinances, regulations and resolutions, existing now and in the future, as they may be amended from time to time, as further set forth herein. Nothing in this Policy in any way restricts or reduces existing enforcement tools and procedures available to North Kings GSA or its Executive Officer or legal counsel. Rather, this Policy builds on North Kings GSA's existing enforcement and regulatory tools and processes, as well as incorporates best practices and legal responsibilities, with the goal of better serving North Kings GSA landowners through nimble, meaningful and transparent enforcement of its GSP and operating rules, regulations, ordinances, and policies.

Exclusions:

This Policy explicitly excludes addressing enforcement of landowners within a city jurisdiction for failing to comply with North Kings GSA policies, rules, ordinances, regulations and resolutions.

3.0 Guiding Principles

Ensuring Compliance: North Kings GSA will strive to ensure compliance with its GSP, orders, ordinances, resolutions, policies, decisions, rules and/or regulations to ensure adherence in a fair and equitable manner and provide a deterrent to violations through its enforcement efforts.

Consistent Enforcement: North Kings GSA enforcement actions will be consistent, reliable, non-discriminatory, just and reasonable. North Kings GSA's enforcement actions shall be appropriate for each type of violation and shall provide consistent treatment for violations that are similar in nature and that have similar impacts to North Kings GSA. Enforcement actions require timely compliance.

Timely Enforcement: North Kings GSA shall pursue timely enforcement, consistent with the needs of each case.

Progressive Enforcement: North Kings GSA may implement progressive enforcement, providing an escalating series of actions beginning with notice of a violation and/or warning letter followed by actions to compel adherence to the North Kings GSA's rules, regulations, and policies and may result in the imposition of penalties or fines. However, progressive enforcement may not be an appropriate enforcement response for violations resulting from intentional or grossly negligent misconduct, where impacts to the North Kings GSA are significant or widespread, or where impacts to health or human

safety are present or imminent. In such cases, North Kings GSA reserves the right to seek immediate court or legal action.

Transparency: North Kings GSA will provide clear and consistent information about its enforcement actions. North Kings GSA will monitor and report on its enforcement actions in a publicly accessible manner, including the extent to which regulated persons or entities return to compliance.

Priority of Enforcement: It is the policy of North Kings GSA that every violation should result in an appropriate enforcement response consistent with the priority of the violation.

4.0 Policy

The North Kings GSA adopts a policy to allow through action of the Board of Directors or the Executive Officer, pursuit of the following enforcement actions:

A. Notice of Violation:

1. In Person or Telephone Communication:

   The North Kings GSA may inform regulated entities in person or by telephone of violations that must be corrected. The North Kings GSA will keep a written record of such oral communications and
   the North Kings GSA will memorialize all oral communications in a written warning via email or letter, Notice of Violation, or other written communication. Oral communications are not required or necessary in every case. The North Kings GSA shall not be required to provide communication in advance of issuing a written warning letter or email or Notice of Violation, or before referring an issue to the North Kings GSA Board of Directors for other enforcement.

2. Warning Letter or Email:

   The North Kings GSA may send a landowner a letter or email that identifies potential violations. The North Kings GSA will document the warning letter or email, including recording the following information: 1) date the letter or email was sent; 2) date North Kings GSA identified the situation or condition at issue; 3) circumstances under which North Kings GSA identified the situation or condition at issue (e.g. during inspection, in response to complaint, etc.); and 4) recommended actions to address the situation or condition at issue, including any recommended timeframes to complete such actions.

3. Request for Information or Investigation:

The North Kings GSA may request relevant information from a landowner to determine compliance and enforcement. Failure to comply or otherwise make such information available may result in other enforcement actions.

To monitor compliance and enforcement, the North Kings GSA may inspect the property or facilities of a person or entity to ascertain whether compliance is being achieved. The North Kings GSA may conduct an inspection consistent with Section 10725.4, of Part 2.74 of Water Code, upon obtaining any necessary consent from the landowner or operator, or obtaining an inspection warrant pursuant to the procedure set forth in Title 13 (commencing with Section 1822.50) of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

4. Formal Notice of Violation:

When a violation is identified, the North Kings GSA may issue a notice of violation to a landowner. A written notice of violation will be sent certified mail and will include the following:

i. The policy, rule, regulation, ordinance, resolution, or other order violated by the landowner;
ii. The facts that form the basis of each violation;
iii. Information related to the potential for additional enforcement action;
iv. A date by which the landowner must come into compliance or correct each violation;
v. A date by which the landowner must certify each violation has been corrected;
vi. A penalty amount if the notice of violation includes a penalty and how the penalty can be paid;
vii. North Kings GSA staff contact information; and
viii. Information related to the required response to the notice of violation.
ix. Information related to a request for voluntary hearing before the North Kings GSA's Board of Directors.

Opportunity to Respond in Writing:

A regulated entity or person who receives a Notice of Violation will have an opportunity to provide a written response. Any written response must be provided to the North Kings GSA within the time identified in the Notice of Violation. A written response to a Notice of Violation must include the following:

i. Statement of facts if the property owner is disputing the existence of a violation;
ii. A plan to correct any undisputed violations;
iii. Confirmation that the landowner will correct any undisputed violation(s) by the date(s) specified in the Notice of Violation or a proposal for a later

date if more time is needed, along with an explanation of the need for additional time;

Confirmation that a penalty assessed, if any, will be paid within 30 days of the issuance of the Notice of Violation or a proposal for lower penalty amount with an explanation of why the lower amount is appropriate, All proposals will be considered by staff and a determination regarding the proposal will be provided in writing to the landowner.

North Kings GSA's Review of Written Response(s):

The North Kings GSA Executive Officer or staff will review any written response(s) to a notice of violation and consider any explanation(s) provided. The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, will thereafter make a recommendation to the North Kings GSA Board of Directors regarding whether to accept the response or whether to proceed with additional enforcement. The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, will provide a rationale for any recommendations for additional enforcement, including why the person or entity's explanation(s) or defense(s) lack merit. After reviewing the response(s), the North Kings GSA Executive Officer may also take any of the following actions, when appropriate:

i. Negotiate a proposed settlement for North Kings GSA legal counsel review and Board review and approval;
ii. Request that the person or entity provide additional information;
iii. Recommend appropriate enforcement action to the North Kings GSA Board of Directors for approval;
iv. Provide written notification to the landowner whether the response resolved one or more of the violations identified in the notice of violation, within thirty (30) days of the date the written response was received.

B. Enforcement Actions

1. Enforcement Order: Following Board approval, the North Kings GSA, its Executive Officer, or legal counsel may issue a proposed enforcement order to a landowner. The North Kings GSA will verify delivery of the proposed enforcement order. Proposed enforcement orders will be maintained by the North Kings GSA and will include the following:

i. The law or North Kings GSA order, resolution, ordinance, policy, decision, rule and/or regulation violated by the landowner;
ii. The facts forming the basis for each violation;
iii. The number of violations incurred, including the dates on which the violations occurred;
iv. Information relating to the potential for additional or ongoing violations;
v. A directive to correct each violation;
vi. A date by which the landowner must certify compliance;
vii. If applicable, a directive to pay a fee, assessment or penalty by a date specified and how to pay to fee, assessment or penalty;

viii. North Kings GSA's contact information; and
ix. Information regarding requesting a voluntary hearing before the North Kings GSA Board of Directors on the proposed enforcement order.

The North Kings GSA Board may designate its Executive Officer and/or legal counsel the responsibility of preparing and/or transmitting a proposed enforcement order to a landowner.

Requests for Hearing. A landowner may request a hearing before the North Kings GSA Board on a proposed enforcement order by submitting a written request for a hearing within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed enforcement order. The right to a hearing is forfeited if the request is not timely submitted. If a timely hearing request is not received, the proposed enforcement order will become final upon adoption by the North Kings GSA Board of Directors. Absent a stay of enforcement by the North Kings GSA Board of Directors, corrective actions designated in a proposed enforcement order will remain in effect while a request for a hearing is pending. Neither payment of any associated assessment, fee, or penalty nor the submission of a timely hearing request shall excuse the landowner from resolving a violation. The hearing will allow oral or written presentations as part of the meeting.

2. Referral to Legal Counsel – Civil Action: The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, may request that the North Kings GSA Board of Directors refer the matter to legal counsel for the filing of a civil action, including for injunctive relief. Any authorization for North Kings GSA's participation in litigation or other legal proceeding(s) requires a unanimous vote of all North Kings GSA's Directors of the Board.

5.0 Penalties

Any person or entity whether acting as principal, agent, employer, or otherwise, who violates any North Kings GSA rule, regulation, ordinance, policy or resolution adopted pursuant to SGMA or the terms and/or conditions of any permit issued to any person or entity, may be punishable by a fine per violation as presented below:

Maximum Penalties as Defined by CA Water Code Section 10732 (a)(1) and (2)

Violation	Fine
1st Violation	Written Notice of Violation with 90 days to comply, plus payment of late fees.
2nd Violation	$500 penalty, plus any late fees, and 90 days to comply.
3rd Violation or More	Up to $1,000 plus $100 for every day on which the violation continues; plus, late fees and penalties.

Excess Groundwater Extractions (If/When Adopted and Implemented)	Up to $500 per acre-foot extracted in excess of the amount that the person or entity is authorized to extract. Additional details will be determined if/when any groundwater extraction policy is adopted and implemented.

All persons and entities in receipt of a civil penalty may appeal to the North Kings GSA Board of Directors by contacting the Executive Officer, or designee.

6.0 Effective Date and Modification

a. This Policy shall become effective on June 1, 2026.

b. NKGSA Board of Directors may modify this Policy at any time, at its sole discretion, pursuant to the applicable procedures described in the North Kings GSA's bylaws.

DRAFT

The foregoing Enforcement and Penalty Policy was passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency, at a regular meeting thereof held on the _____ day of _____ 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

_____
Chairman, Board of Directors
Mr. Jerry Prieto
North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

ATTEST:

_____
Kassy D. Chauhan, P.E.
North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Executive Officer

Approved as to legal form and effect:

_____

David Boyer, Esq, AALRR
Legal Counsel – North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

DRAFT

9 (a - d) – EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA ITEM NO:	**9 (a) - (d)**
Executive Officer:	KDC

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

TO: Chair and Committee Members

FROM: Executive Officer – Kassy Chauhan

DATE: May 4, 2026

SUBJECT: NKGSA Executive Officer Report

ATTACHMENTS: (A) NONE

SGMA Implementation Project Updates

Member agencies continue to make progress on their SGMA implementation projects. Status updates will be provided annually on the project and management actions (PMA) spreadsheet required to be submitted to Department of Water Resources with the annual report. Funding for SGMA implementation projects will be available through Proposition 4 so agencies should be prepared to submit applications for funding once released.

Biola Community Services District (Biola CSD) was able to take surface water through the turnout constructed on FID's Herndon Canal and route it to their recharge basin located at their wastewater plant for the first time starting May 5, 2026. This marks an important time for the Biola CSD as they are one of the first, if not the first, to be a completely sustainable community made possible with their water supply agreement with FID and the recharge basin constructed with Prop 1, IWRM and CDBG funds. The public relations team for NKGSA was onsite to capture this important event and will be working to prepare a news release to share with the local media outlets.

Outreach and External Affairs

The NKGSA remains active on social media. Additionally, the NKGSA actively engages with stakeholders via e-blogs and by providing information on the website. Participation in the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint and the Collaborative Action Plan. The well registration activity resulted in an increase in the number of followers and email subscribers.

Dedicated Representative Monitoring Well Improvements:

The North Kings GSA Board of Directors approved investments for the development of a dedicated representative monitoring network. The first phase of dedicated monitoring wells included ten monitoring wells and the construction on those wells was completed and all wells are connected to telemetry allowing for real-time water level monitoring at those ten locations. Additionally, the Department of Water Resources' Technical Support Services monitoring well was constructed starting on April 27th. This well has been in the planning stages for several years and was recently completed near Peach and Copper Avenues, in Northeast Fresno.

Phase 2 of the dedicated representative monitoring network planning is underway and staff is seeking support from the Board of Directors for $750,000 in dedicated funding for these construction efforts. Phase 2 will consist of an additional 10 wells as the NKGSA works towards a fully dedicated representative monitoring network. DWR continues to emphasize the importance of the bi-annual groundwater level measurements from the representative monitoring wells and continuing to use private agricultural wells and private domestic wells could be costly to the North Kings GSA.

Well Permit Review:

The NKGSA continues to review each of the well permit applications submitted to permitting agencies for wells being drilled within the NKGSA boundary. Data obtained from the well permit applications is compiled to facilitate ease of review and tracking. The NKGSA has been reviewing all new well permit applications submitted to Fresno County. The locations of the proposed new wells (including replacement wells) are being mapped to enable the NKGSA to identify any areas of concern. In addition, the NKGSA is notified by the State of California any time there is a report of a well going dry through the My Well Went Dry portal housed on DWR's website.

Prepared by: Kassy D. Chauhan