NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Advisory Committee Meeting – August 14, 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 August 14, 2026.

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA
NKGSA Advisory Committee
August 14, 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 July 10, 2026 Regular Meeting

4. Financial Report (Koehn)
    a. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Expense Reports for June 2026
    b. Discussion – Review Draft Financial Statements as of June 30, 2026
    c. Update on Member Agency Contributions
    d. Update on Interested Parties Invoices and Contributions
    e. Update on Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Audit
    f. Update on LAIF Account

5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update (Samuelian)

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

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: September 11, 2026

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

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

NKGSA Advisory Committee Meeting
July 10, 2026

IN-PERSON AND TELECONFERENCE

In attendance:

**Scott Redelfs (City of Clovis)
*Adam Claes (Fresno Irrigation District)
*Dejan Pavic (City of Fresno)
*Adan Ortiz (Fresno County)
*Jarrod Takemoto (Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District)
*Shay Bakman (Bakman Water Company)
*Nick Keller (Garfield Water District)
*Carmen Zamora (Biola CSD)
Kassy Chauhan (NKGSA)
Andrew Aller (NKGSA legal counsel) (online)
Ronnie Samuelian (Provost & Pritchard)
Kristen Freberg (City of Clovis)
Lisa Koehn (Clovis)

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

*__**Note:__ 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 1:33 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 Bakaman
Biola CSD	Present*	Carmen Zamora*
City of Clovis	Present	Scott Redelfs
City of Fresno	Present	Dejan Pavic
City of Kerman	Absent	---
Fresno County	Present	Adan Ortiz
Fresno Irrigation District	Present	Adam Claes
Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District	Present	Jarrod Takemoto
Garfield Water District	Present	Nick Keller

**The representative for Biola CSD arrived during item #5. Vote counts reflect attendance at the time each item was considered.*

Item 2. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

Item 3. Approval of Minutes

Item 3a. Approval of Minutes from May 8, 2026, Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes made by member Claes; second by member Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with 1 abstaining.

Item 4. Financial Report

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

Total expenses for April were $59,865.81, including payments to attorneys, Bradley & Sons, County of Fresno for a well permit for the TSS well drilled by DWR, FID, Intuit QuickBooks, and Provost & Pritchard.

For May, expenses totaled $34,017.78, including payments to attorneys, Falcon Security Services, Intuit QuickBooks, and Provost & Pritchard.

Motion to recommend approval of the expense reports made by member Keller; second by member Bakman. Motion passed unanimously 7-0, 2 absent.

Item 4b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of May 31, 2026
(Koehn)

Assets are currently at $2,313,787.47. Total expenses through May 31, 2026, were $741,296.75, which is approximately 41% of the budget.

Motion to recommend approval of the financial statements made by member Claes; second by member Takemoto. Motion passed unanimously 7-0, 2 absent.

Item 5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update
(Samuelian)

A meeting was held with the Delta Mendota Subbasin in June regarding inter-basin coordination and subsidence. There was also a meeting with DWR to discuss their water level monitoring program, and a follow-up meeting has been scheduled.

DWR is also having subsidence special meetings with basins, but the Kings Subbasin has not been contacted yet.

A meeting will be held this month to continue discussions on coordinated work on interconnected surface water. Delta Mendota has expressed interest in being included in the work on the San Joaquin River. DWR has not released the BMP for interconnected surface water evaluations at this time, but it is anticipated to be released soon.

A reminder was given to have projects ready for Prop 4 funding.

Item 6. Administrative

Item 6a. Discussion / Possible Action – Advisory Committee Chair and Vice-Chair and Official Roster
(Chauhan)

The roster is approved annually and updated as personnel changes occur throughout the year. The current Chair and Vice-Chair have agreed to continue in their roles.

Motion to recommend approval of the current roster made by member Keller; second by member Takemoto. Motion passed unanimously 8-0, 1 absent.

Item 6b. Discussion / Possible Action – Election of North Kings GSA Board Chair and Vice Chair Update

Jerry Prieto of FID has been serving as Chair of the Board and Fresno County Supervisor Brian Pacheco has been serving as Vice Chair. Jerry Prieto has indicated he will run for re-election for the FID Board of Directors and would like to continue to serve as Chair. Vice-Chair Brian Pachecho is seeking a state assembly position in the November election and will no longer be on the Fresno County Board of Supervisors. As such, the North Kings GSA Board will likely need to elect a new Vice Chair following the November election.

Item 6c. Discussion / Possible Action – Consider Recommending Approval of NKGSA 2026-001 Vision for Our Water Future

This is a campaign that is being supported and run by ACWA, aimed at informing the incoming governor/administration of the importance of water in California. The resolution is to demonstrate support for the Vision for Our Water Future campaign. If passed, the Board will consider adoption at the July Boad meeting, and if approved, ACWA will be notified and the resolution and logo will be submitted.

Motion to recommend approval of the resolution made by member Claes; second by member Pavic. Motion passed unanimously 8-0, 1 absent.

Item 6d. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the North Kings GSA 2026 Conflict of Interest Code Amendments and Resolution NKGSA-2026-002

There is a Conflict-of-Interest Code that was adopted in 2018. Every 2 years, there are biennial reviews. A legislative change (SB852) resulted in a change in the filing office for public officials who manage public investments. There have been amendments to the code, including a change to require electronic filings by the Fiscal Agent of the North Kings GSA. The amendments to the Conflict-of-Interest Code were reviewed and accepted by Fresno County legal counsel.

Motion to recommend approval of the amended conflict of interest code and adoption of the resolution made by member Keller; second by member Ortiz. Motion passed unanimously 8-0, 1 absent.

Item 6e. Groundwater Extraction Facility Registration Update
(Chauhan)

8,237 wells have been registered to date – 2,847 of which are agricultural wells and 4,509 of which are domestic wells. The late registration fee ($100 per wellhead) began on February 1st. Several waivers have been reviewed and approved. Approximately $3,500 in late fees have been collected to date.

Phase 2 efforts are underway, including a candidate list of parcels with no wells registered. Notices to landowners will be sent out beginning July 2026.

The draft enforcement policy was routed to the Technical Workgroup on July 9th, and it will possibly be ready to present to the Advisory Committee in August.

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

The program is active. Since the last meeting, two additional applications were submitted. One was denied due to the well being over the 50-year threshold and the other was denied due to the applicant being over the income limit. To date, no applications have been approved.

Item 6e. 2026 Well Permitting Update
(Chauhan)

113 applications have been submitted this year to date (compared to 229 in 2024 and 242 in 2025). Most have been for supplemental or domestic wells.

Item 7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

Item 7a. Technical Workgroup Update
(Claes)

The workgroup met twice in June. The enforcement policy was discussed, as well as the proposed monitoring well locations. There were also discussions on adjusting the measurable objectives in water levels for certain regions given a shift in surface water utilization within the North Kings GSA boundary. The largest focus of the workgroup has been on the groundwater allocation framework, particularly canal seepage.

Item 8. Member Agency / Committee Member Reports

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

i. Water Supply Update
(Claes)

Millerton Lake storage hit its peak about a month ago, and there is some concern that by November, the reservoir might be at a low point. Friant-Kern Canal is at about 3,550 cfs; the Madera Canal is at about 964 cfs. Friant Class 1 allocations are at 100%; Class 2 allocations are at 0%.

Pine Flat storage is below 500,000 AF, with about 6,300 cfs being released from the dam. FID storage is at about 117,000 AF (slowly tapering off from earlier in the year).

We are still below average precipitation for the water year, currently estimated to be about 75% of average. (April – July numbers specifically are 52% of average.) FID's water season began March 16th and will for sure

run through July 31st, but FID will be recommending to its Board to extend irrigation deliveries through August 15th.

ii. Others
(Zamora)

Biola CSD's recharge project is complete. A ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for July 29th. All are invited to celebrate the completion of the groundwater recharge basin project and canal turnout.

iii. Others
(Pavic)

Member Pavic commented to request that the budget discussion process (or at least projections) begin earlier in the fiscal year so that member agencies have more time for review and there are no surprises when the July 1st invoices are issued for the next fiscal year.

Item 9. Executive Officer Update
(Chauhan)

Item 9a. SGMA Implementation Projects Update
A reminder was given to have projects ready for upcoming funding as the release of the grant guidelines are expected later this year.

Item 9b. Outreach / External Affairs Update
Social media engagement continues, and there are plans to participate in the ribbon cutting for Biola CSD's completed recharge project.

Item 9c. Representative Monitoring Network Update
As mentioned by member Claes, proposed well locations are being discussed by the Technical Workgroup.

Item 9d. Miscellaneous
Some legislation is being tracked (including AB 2026, re: groundwater recharge), but there is not much movement at the moment due to the State Legislature being in recess.

Item 10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 PM.

Next Meeting: August 14, 2026

4 (a-b) – FINANCIAL REPORT – Expense Report for June 2026; Financial Statements as of June 30, 2026

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

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

NKGSA-
REPORT TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TO: Chair and Advisory Committee Members

FROM: De Ann Stork – Fiscal Agent

DATE: August 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Financial Update

ATTACHMENTS: (A) NKGSA Expense Reports – June 2026
(B) Draft Financial Statements as of June 30, 2026

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

RECOMMENDATION

For the Advisory Committee to recommend approval of the Expense Reports for June 2026, to the NKGSA Board of Directors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The fiscal agent, DeAnn Stork, has prepared the monthly expense report for June 2026 (Attachment A) and the draft financial statements as of June 30, 2026 (Attachment B). The draft financial statements are reflective of the revised FY 2025-2026 budget approved by the North Kings GSA Board of Directors on April 23, 2026.

There are a few budget line items that were slightly over the budget amount including: Well Monitoring (102.16%), public relations – general outreach (109.11%), public relations – well registration (100.66%), executive officer (104.34%), and supporting staff (107.55%). This accounted for $22,637.68 more in expenses in these categories combined compared to what was budgeted. However, there are several categories where

expenses were less than the budgeted amounts. In addition, the interest income of $88,225.18 is more than the budgeted amount of $55,777.81. The total expenses estimated as of June 30, 2026, were $812,924.81 which is well under the total budgeted amount of $1,820,800.67.

For the domestic well mitigation line item, a total of $13,343.35 were expended leaving a balance of $986,656.65 to be rolled into the domestic well mitigation revolving fund to fund future year's domestic well mitigation expenses.

There were no unexpected expenses noted and most budget line items are tracking very close to the budgeted amount for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026. The financial statements as of June 30, 2026, will be considered for approval after the FY 2025-2026 audit is completed in case there are adjustments as a result of the audit findings.

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 Revised Budget, approved on April 23, 2026, with the exceptions noted above. Total expenses for the fiscal year were less than the budgeted amount.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

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

ACTIONS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The expense report will be provided to the NKGSA Board of Directors for approval at its next board meeting scheduled for September 3, 2026. The final financial statements as of June 30, 2026, will be considered after the audit is completed.

Prepared by: De Ann Stork

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Transaction List with Splits

June 2026

DATE	NUM	NAME	MEMO/DESCRIPTION	ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Constant Contact, Inc.					
06/25/2026		Constant Contact, Inc.		Five Star Credit Card	104.00
				Public Information:PR - General Outreach	104.00
Falcon Security Services Inc					
06/01/2026	30297	Falcon Security Services Inc		Accounts Payable	104.00
			May 2026 Services	Professional Services:Security Services	104.00
Fresno Irrigation District					
06/09/2026	07823	Fresno Irrigation District		Accounts Payable	6,398.98
			May 2026 Hours	Staff Expense:Executive Officer	4,679.99
			May 2026 Fiscal Agent Hours	Staff Expense:Supporting Staff (FID)	553.52
			May 2026 Recording Secretary Hours	Staff Expense:Supporting Staff (FID)	617.60
			May 2026 GIS Specialist Hours	Staff Expense:Supporting Staff (FID)	185.66
			May 2026 Admin Fee 6%	Staff Expense:Supporting Staff (FID)	362.21
06/30/2026	07853	Fresno Irrigation District	JUNE 2026 HOURS	Accounts Payable	4,442.31
			June 2026 Hours	Staff Expense:Executive Officer	3,820.40
			June 2026 Fiscal Agent Hours	Staff Expense:Supporting Staff (FID)	138.38
			June 2026 GIS Specialist Surveyor Hours	Staff Expense:Supporting Staff (FID)	232.08
			June 2026 Admin Fee 6%	Staff Expense:Supporting Staff (FID)	251.45
Intuit QuickBooks Online					
06/15/2026	10001502037315	Intuit QuickBooks Online		Accounts Payable	115.00
				Office Supplies	115.00

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Transaction List with Splits

June 2026

DATE	NUM	NAME	MEMO/DESCRIPTION	ACCOUNT	AMOUNT
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group					
06/10/2026	131224	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	62.00
			Dom Well Mit Prog Admin 002	Project Costs:Well Mitigation	62.00
06/10/2026	131225	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	22,023.40
			On-going GEN	Professional Services:Engineering Consultant	9,629.70
			On-going MON	Project Costs:Well Monitoring	758.20
			On-going PUB	Public Information:PR - General Outreach	4,754.40
			On-going REG	Public Information:PR - Well Registration Support Staff	816.60
			On-going SUB	Professional Services:Engineering Consultant	5,049.30
			On-going SUP	Public Information:PR - Well Registration Support Staff	1,015.20
06/11/2026	131338	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	2,159.63
			Kings Basin Coord COR	Kings Basin Coordination	912.10
			Kings Basin Coord REP	Kings Basin Coordination	1,247.53
06/11/2026	131343	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	45.55
			Dom Well Mit Prog Admin 001	Project Costs:Well Mitigation	45.55
06/30/2026	132526	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	911.00
			Dom Well Mit Proj Admin 002	Project Costs:Well Mitigation	911.00
06/30/2026	132527	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	31,549.70
			On-going GEN	Professional Services:Engineering Consultant	14,710.30
			On-going PUB	Public Information:PR - General Outreach	6,312.60
			On-going REG	Public Information:PR - Well Registration	188.00
			On-going SUB	Professional Services:Engineering Consultant	9,612.80
			On-going SUP	Public Information:PR - Well Registration Support Staff	726.00
06/30/2026	132529	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	46.55
			Dom Well Mit Prog Admin 001	Project Costs:Well Mitigation	46.55
06/30/2026	132534	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		Accounts Payable	1,445.93
			Kings Basin Coord COR	Kings Basin Coordination	1,064.04
			Kings Basin Coord REP	Kings Basin Coordination	381.89

North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2026

ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
Five Star Bank Checking		125,000.00
Five Star Bank Money Market		1,556,808.53
LAIF		572,491.18
Total Bank Accounts	**$**	**2,254,299.71**
Other Current Assets		
Interest Receivable		5,588.52
Total Other Current Liabilities	**$**	**5,588.52**
Total Current Assets	**$**	**2,259,888.23**
TOTAL ASSETS	**$**	**2,259,888.23**
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
Accounts Payable		40,604.54
Total Accounts Payable	**$**	**40,604.54**
Credit Cards		
Five Star Credit Card		104.00
Total Credit Cards	**$**	**104.00**
Other Current Liabilities		
Deferred Revenues Intr[illegible]rties		10,246.40
Total Other Current Liabilities	**$**	**10,246.40**
Total Current Liabilities	**$**	**50,954.94**
Total Liabilities	**$**	**50,954.94**
Net Position		
Member Agency Participation Balances		250,573.58
Reserves - Legal Fund		500,000.00
Reserves - Well Mitigation Program		456,594.74
Net Income		1,001,764.97
Total Net Position	**$**	**2,208,933.29**
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET POSITION	**$**	**2,259,888.23**

DRAFT

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

	Actual	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
Income				
Grant Income		0.00	0.00	
Interested Party Contribution	7,113.20	7,113.20	0.00	100.00%
Member/Contracting Entity				
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	100.00%
Total Member/Contracting Entity	**$ 1,716,396.80**	**$ 1,716,396.80**	**$ .00**	**100.00%**
Well Registration Penalties	3,400.00		,400	
Total Income	**$ 1,726,910.00**	**$ 1,723,510.00**	**$ 3,400.00**	**100.20%**
Expenses				
Audit Expense	5,730.00	6,00	-270.00	95.50%
Bank Charges	22.41		22.41	
Dues and Subscriptions	3,443.17	3,443.17	0.00	100.00%
Insurance	2,057.50	2,057.50	0.00	100.00%
Kings Basin Coordination	46,268.31	6 ,00	,731.69	77.11%
Legal	16,213.07	20,00 ,00	-3,786.93	81.07%
Office Supplies	.26	00.00	-196.74	87.70%
Professional Services		0.00	0.00	
Engineering Consultant	160,321	17 ,00.00	-9,678.52	94.31%
Security Services	.00	1,200.00	-638.00	46.83%
Total Professional Services	**$ .883.48**	**$ 171,200.00**	**-$ 10,316.52**	**93.97%**
Project Costs			0.00	
Well Mitigation	13,34 .35	1,000,000.00	-986,656.65	1.33%
Well Monitoring	75,020.99	465,000.00	10,020.99	102.16%
Well Monitoring Reserves	265,000.63	-265,000.00	-0.63	100.00%
Total Project Costs	**223,363.71**	**$ 1,200,000.00**	**-$ 976,636.29**	**18.61%**
Public Information		0.00	0.00	
PR - General Outreach	85,105.17	78,000.00	7,105.17	109.11%
PR - Well Registration	81,027.52	80,500.00	527.52	100.66%
PR - Well Registration Support Staff	82,423.21	98,000.00	-15,576.79	84.11%
Total Public Information	**$ 248,555.90**	**$ 256,500.00**	**-$ 7,944.10**	**96.90%**
Staff Expense			0.00	
Executive Officer	83,473.14	80,000.00	3,473.14	104.34%
Supporting Staff (FID)	21,510.86	20,000.00	1,510.86	107.55%
Total Staff Expense	**$ 104,984.00**	**$ 100,000.00**	**$ 4,984.00**	**104.98%**
Total Expenses	**$ 812,924.81**	**$ 1,820,800.67**	**-$ 1,007,875.86**	**44.65%**
Net Operating Income	**$ 913,985.19**	**-$ 97,290.67**	**$ 1,011,275.86**	**-939.44%**
Other Income				
Interest Income	88,225.18	55,777.81	32,447.37	158.17%
Unrealized Gain/Loss	-445.40	0.00	-445.40	
Total Other Income	**$ 87,779.78**	**$ 55,777.81**	**$ 32,001.97**	**157.37%**
Change in Net Position	**$ 1,001,764.97**	**-$ 41,512.86**	**$ 1,043,277.83**	**-2413.14%**

DRAFT

6 (a) – NKGSA POLICY NO. 2026-001 ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTY POLICY

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, P.E.

DATE: August 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Discussion / Possible Action - NKGSA Policy 2026-001 Enforcement and Penalty Policy

ATTACHMENTS: (A) NKGSA-2026-001 – 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 September 3, 2026, special 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) to reach sustainability. The goal of the Enforcement and Penalty 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 and adopted by the North Kings GSA Board of Directors. As such, the 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.

NKGSA-2026-001

The purpose of the Policy is to ensure compliance with policies and rules adopted by the North Kings GSA Board of Directors and to provide deterrence to violations through enforcement actions. This Policy: 1) established guiding principles for the North Kings GSA's approach to enforcement and setting penalties; 2) establishes a standardized enforcement framework; 3) authorizes the North Kings GSA Executive Officer to propose enforcement recommendations, subject to Board approval; 4) addresses 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) establishes civil penalty guidelines for violations which are authorized by Section 10732 (a)(1) and (2) of the California Water Code.

The Policy was developed with input from the North Kings GSA 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 Policy and has found the Policy to be compliant with applicable legal requirements. Input from all the member agencies represented on the North Kings GSA Technical Workgroup has been considered and changes are reflected in the Policy included in Attachment A.

IMPLEMENTATION:

In anticipation of the Policy being adopted, staff are 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 in accordance with the Policy. Landowners will have 90 (ninety) days from the receipt of the notice of violation to register their wells with the North Kings GSA or be subject to progressive enforcement as described in the Policy and below.

All enforcement activities will be tracked in SubCurrent.

PROGRESSIVE ENFORCEMENT:

Per the 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 to landowners failing to comply

with the first notice of violation and will include a $500 penalty in addition to the late registration fees and a requirement to comply within 90 (ninety) days. The third violation and enforcement order could result in a civil penalty of up to $1,000.00 plus $100 per day 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 North Kings GSA is charged with managing the groundwater locally to prevent the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) from taking over the management of the groundwater in its boundary. The North Kings GSA Board of Directors approved 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 landowners 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 2026-001 at the September 3, 2026, special 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 owners and/or operators of any groundwater extraction facility (hereinafter collectively referred to as "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 groundwater extraction 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 and groundwater extraction facilities subject to enforcement receive due process per the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (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 (Water Code Section 10725.2). Additionally, SGMA provides authority for groundwater sustainability agency enforcement powers for

any person who violates any rule, regulation, or resolution adopted pursuant to Water Code Section 10725.2 (Water Code Section 10732 (a)(2)). 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 under direction of the North Kings GSA Board. 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.

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 reasonable 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 landowners 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 actions of the Board of Directors while providing direction to the Executive Officer, pursuit of the following enforcement actions:

A. Notice of Violation:

1. In Person or Telephone Communication:

   As the North Kings GSA pursues violations against landowners of policies it has approved for action through direction to the Executive Officer and Legal Counsel, the North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, will inform landowners in person or by telephone of the violations that must be corrected. The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, will prepare and maintain a written record of such oral communications and;

   The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, 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 Executive Officer, or designee, will provide either oral or written communication, including email, as a warning action in advance of issuing a Notice of Violation, or before referring an issue to the North Kings GSA Board of Directors for other enforcement in accordance with the Policy.

2. Warning Letter or Email:

   The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, will send a landowner a letter or email that identifies potential violations. The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, 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 Executive Officer, or designee, identified the situation or condition at issue; 3) circumstances under which North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, 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 Executive Officer, or designee, may request relevant information from a landowner to determine compliance and enforcement. Failure to comply or otherwise make such information available may result in additional enforcement actions in accordance with the Policy.

   To monitor compliance and enforcement, the North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, may inspect the property or facilities of a person or entity to ascertain whether compliance is being achieved. The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, may conduct an inspection consistent with Water Code Section 10725.4 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 Executive Officer, or designee, will issue a notice of violation to a landowner. A written notice of violation will be sent by certified mail and will include the following:

   i. The policy, rule, regulation, ordinance, resolution, or other order violated by the landowner including copies of the document establishing the requirement and a copy of the Policy for enforcement;
   ii. The facts that form the basis of each violation;
   iii. Information related to the potential for additional enforcement action per the Enforcement Policy;
   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 landowner or operator 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 Executive Officer, or designee, 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 landowner or operator is disputing the existence of a violation;
ii. A plan to correct any undisputed violations;
iii. Confirmation that the landowner or operator 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;
iv. Confirmation that a penalty assessed, if any, will be paid within ninety (90) 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 North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, 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 designee, 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, or designee, may also take any of the following actions, when appropriate:

i. Negotiate a proposed settlement for North Kings GSA with legal counsel and Board review, and as an action for Board 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 or operator 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:

In the event the landowner or operator continues to fail to comply with North Kings GSA policies, orders, ordinances, resolutions, decisions, rules and/or regulations, the North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, may proceed with issuance of an enforcement order as described below:

1. Enforcement Order: Following Board approval, the North Kings GSA, its Executive Officer, legal counsel, or designee may issue a proposed enforcement order to a landowner or operator. The North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, will verify delivery of the proposed enforcement order via certified mail. Proposed enforcement orders will be maintained by the North Kings GSA Executive Officer, or designee, 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 or operator including copies of the applicable document establishing the requirement and a copy of the Enforcement Policy;
    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 or operator 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.

2. 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 or operator.

3. Requests for Hearing

    A landowner or operator 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 submitted timely. 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.

    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	Penalty (Water Code section 10732)
1st Violation	Written Notice of Violation with 90 days to comply, plus payment of late fees.
2nd Violation	Up to $500 civil penalty, plus any late fees, and 90 days to comply.
3rd Violation or More	Up to $1,000 civil penalty, plus $100 for every day on which the violation continues; plus, any late fees.
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 September 4, 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, following review and recommendation to modify from the North Kings GSA Advisory Committee.

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

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: August 10, 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 July 6, 2026. A ribbon cutting event was held on July 29, 2026, at the Biola Recharge Basin to celebrate the completion of this project which would not have been possible without collaboration amongst several agency partners. A short video documenting the importance of this project for the Biola CSD was prepared and is available at the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y33mkxM-kU4

The ribbon cutting event included agency partners from the Fresno Irrigation District, Fresno County, the California Department of Water Resources and a special acknowledgment for project concept proponent, former Biola CSD general manager, Dwight Miller. The Biola CSD was recognized by several elected officials' offices and commended for the great work towards reaching sustainability. The Biola CSD may be the first underrepresented groundwater dependent community to reach sustainability in a critically overdrafted groundwater basin. That is an accomplishment that is worth celebration. The news release was shared by several news outlets including CBS 47, ABC30, KMPH Fox 26, ACWA News, The Business Journal and SJV Water.

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 continues. The well registration activity resulted in an increase in the number of followers and email subscribers. NKGSA continues to see growth in its social media following across all platforms.

Dedicated Representative Monitoring Well Improvements:

The North Kings GSA Board of Directors approved continued investments for the development of a dedicated representative monitoring network. Phase 2 of the dedicated representative monitoring network planning is underway and the Board of Directors approved $750,000 for construction of an additional 8 to 10 dedicated wells. The bid documents are being prepared and should be ready for release in the next month. It is expected that this item will be taken to the Board for possible action at the September 24th regular board meeting, or in October 2026.

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. Construction on Phase 2 of the dedicated monitoring network should start in October or November 2026.

Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) Coordination:

The Kings Subbasin was approached by Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) regarding some interconnected surface water investigations on the Kings River through a program with UC Merced. During the initial discussion with EDF, staff mentioned the work already being coordinated on the San Joaquin River and encouraged the team from UC Merced and EDF to transition their efforts to the San Joaquin River. Coordination with Madera Subbasin, USBR and Friant Water Authority (FWA) is necessary, and additional coordination is in progress.

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