

Text to be amended in the Emergency Ordinance under the heading “Unpaid Invoice Policy”

SGMA provides the MKGSA has the authority to collect any delinquent groundwater charges and any applicable penalties (Water Code section 10730.6). Pursuant to such authority, the MKGSA may consider one or more of these options for unpaid fees.

- (1) If an invoice remains unpaid by the due date, a notice will be mailed. If the fee remains unpaid for 30 days after the notice is sent, the owner/operator will owe 1% interest of the principal per month and a 10% penalty.
- (2) If the landowner does not contact the GSA within 90 days to pay the overdue balance, or notify staff of a plan and timeline to resolve the overdue balance, the GSA may take one of 3 actions.
 - a. MKGSA can take legal action against owners/operators of groundwater facilities within the plan's area to recover overdue fees, interest, or penalties.
 - b. Alternatively, MKGSA can use local agency laws or joint powers authority procedures to collect overdue charges, penalties, and interest.
 - c. After a public hearing, MKGSA may order an owner/operator to stop groundwater extraction until all fees are paid. The owner/operator must be notified by certified mail at least 15 days in advance of the hearing.