

RESOLUTION 2025-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MOUND BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY DETERMINING AND ESTABLISHING A GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FEE AGAINST ALL PERSONS OPERATING GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FACILITIES WITHIN THE MOUND BASIN FOR THE 16TH AND 17TH SEMIANNUAL BILLING PERIODS (JULY–DECEMBER 2025 AND JANUARY–JUNE 2026).

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) is authorized to collect regulatory fees such as permit fees and groundwater extraction fees, among other things (Wat. Code, § 10730); and

WHEREAS, a GSA may levy these fees to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program, including, but not limited to, preparation, adoption, and amendment of a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP), and investigations, inspections, compliance assistance, enforcement, and program administration, including a prudent reserve for the Mound Sub-basin (#4-004.03); and

WHEREAS, a GSA may levy these fees both pre- and post-adoption of a GSP as long as those funds collected are used for the enumerated activities set forth under Water Code section 10730; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2021, the Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) adopted a GSP for the Mound Basin; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2025, the Agency approved a budget for Fiscal Year 2025–2026 and updated its multi-year financial projection; and

WHEREAS, after a review of the financial standing of the Agency, the Board of Directors (Board) determined the need for a groundwater extraction fee of \$160.00 per acre-foot for (a) the 16th Semiannual Billing Period (July–December 2025) and (b) the 17th Semiannual Billing Period (January–June 2026 extractions); and

WHEREAS, the Agency provided notice regarding this proposed groundwater extraction fee and the associated public meeting, as follows:

1. By publication of notice pursuant to Government Code section 6066 in the Ventura County Star on June 8, 2025, and June 15, 2025.
2. By posting notice on the website of the Agency at www.moundbasingsa.org, and on the Facebook page of the Agency at <https://www.facebook.com/moundbasingsa/>.

3. By mailing notice to current groundwater customers of the Agency.
4. By mailing notice to any interested party who filed a written request with the Agency for mailed notice of the public fee meeting, if any.
5. By emailing notice to any interested party who is listed on or requested to be added to the interested parties email list.
6. This notice included:
 - the date, time, and place of the meeting;
 - a general explanation of the fee under consideration; and
 - a statement that the data on which the fee is based is publicly available.
7. At least 20 days prior to the public meeting, the Agency made the data upon which the fee is based, the Agency's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget and Multi-Year Budget Projection, available to the public on the Agency's website.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Mound Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency that a groundwater extraction fee shall be levied as follows:

1. A groundwater extraction fee of \$160.00 per acre-foot shall be levied on all groundwater extracted from within the Agency boundary, regardless of whether that groundwater is derived from the native or an augmented supply, during (a) the 16th Semiannual Billing Period (July–December 2025 extractions) and (b) the 17th Semiannual Billing Period (January–June 2026 extractions).
2. The data upon which this groundwater extraction fee is based is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein. This data is approved and adopted, and Agency staff are directed to comply with its provisions.
3. The Agency shall bill this groundwater extraction fee semiannually with billing periods covering January through June and July through December. Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the Agency shall endeavor to adopt groundwater extraction fees concurrently with its annual budgeting process.
4. The Board makes the following findings, based upon the testimony and evidence (including exhibits) presented at the public meeting regarding the groundwater extraction fee:

- a. Revenues derived from this groundwater extraction fee will not exceed the amounts required to provide for implementation of the GSP and related administrative services.
- b. Revenues derived from this groundwater extraction fee shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the groundwater extraction fee is imposed.


PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 23th day of June 2025.

Ayes: 3 (Tribo, Everts, Keeling)

Noes: 0

Absent: 1 (Chambers)

Abstain: 0


Catherine P. Keeling, Chair

ATTEST:


Jennifer Tribo, Vice Chair / Secretary