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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 1250

02/25/2015 Authored by Fischer

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to waters; providing authority to charge surcharges and fees to water users
1.3 within the north and east metro groundwater management area; appropriating
1.4 money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 103G.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. 103G.272] NORTH AND EAST METRO GROUNDWATER
1.7 MANAGEMENT AREA WATER RATES.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Surcharges. The commissioner may add surcharges to the fees
1.9 established under section 103G.271, subdivision 6, at the request of a joint powers
1.10 organization made up of local government units within the north and east metro
1.11 groundwater management area designated by the commissioner. The surcharges may
1.12 not exceed:

1.13 (1) for domestic and other first-priority uses as described under section 103G.261,
1.14 \$..... per 1,000,000 gallons;

1.15 (2) for third-priority uses as described under section 103G.261, \$..... per 1,000,000
1.16 gallons;

1.17 (3) for fourth-priority uses as described under section 103G.261, \$..... per
1.18 1,000,000 gallons;

1.19 (4) for fifth-priority uses as described under section 103G.261, \$..... per 1,000,000
1.20 gallons; and

1.21 (5) for sixth-priority uses as described under section 103G.261, \$..... per 1,000,000
1.22 gallons.

1.23 Subd. 2. Unpermitted water use fees. (a) The commissioner may charge
1.24 water users exempt from the permit requirements under section 103G.271 and any

2.1 surcharges established under subdivision 1, a water use fee at the request of a joint
2.2 powers organization made up of local government units within the north and east metro
2.3 groundwater management area designated by the commissioner. The commissioner may
2.4 establish an unpermitted water use fee schedule for these purposes. When establishing the
2.5 fee schedule, the commissioner must consider:

- 2.6 (1) water use fees under section 103G.271, subdivision 6;
2.7 (2) any surcharges established under subdivision 1;
2.8 (3) average water consumption rates in the area by type of water use; and
2.9 (4) for residential uses, lot sizes.

2.10 (b) An individual usage fee must not exceed \$.....

2.11 Subd. 3. **Account.** Revenue raised from surcharges and fees established under this
2.12 section must be deposited in the water management account in the natural resources fund
2.13 and is appropriated to the Public Facilities Authority for purposes of subdivision 4.

2.14 Subd. 4. **Grants.** The Public Facilities Authority, in consultation with the
2.15 commissioner, shall award grants to local government units for projects within the north
2.16 and east metro groundwater management area that will improve the quantity and quality
2.17 of groundwater in the area, including projects:

- 2.18 (1) that reduce the use of groundwater in the area;
2.19 (2) providing wellhead protection;
2.20 (3) for the reuse of water, including storm water; and
2.21 (4) that improve recharge, including wetland and other conservation projects.

2.22 Subd. 5. **Sunset.** This section expires June 30, 2020.