

208.10A Penalties.

1. Any person who violates an order issued pursuant to section 208.10 shall be subject to an administrative penalty determined by the division not to exceed five thousand dollars per violation.

a. The division shall establish, by rule, a schedule or range of administrative penalties. The schedule shall provide procedures and criteria for the assessment of these penalties.

b. Administrative penalties may be assessed in lieu of or in conjunction with any action initiated by the attorney general on behalf of the division.

c. All penalties shall be paid within thirty days of the date that the order assessing the penalty becomes final. An operator who fails to pay an administrative penalty assessed by a final order of the division shall pay, in addition, interest at the rate of one and one-half percent of the unpaid balance of the assessed penalty for each month or part of a month that the penalty remains unpaid.

d. The attorney general shall, at the request of the division, institute proceedings to recover all penalties assessed.

2. If any person violates a provision of this chapter, or any rule or order adopted by the division pursuant to this chapter, the division may notify the attorney general who shall institute a civil action in district court for injunctive relief and for the assessment of a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars per violation.

3. Penalties, bond reversions, and bond forfeitures collected under the provisions of this chapter or any rule adopted by the division pursuant to this chapter shall be deposited in an interest-bearing account and may be used for the cost and administrative expenses of reclamation or rehabilitation activities for any mine site as deemed necessary and appropriate by the division.