

1. The **Save the River Murray Levy** is imposed at a flat rate on all SA Water customers (even those who don't access River Murray water). In 2007-08 the levy payable on residential property is \$32.80 per annum, and for non residential/commercial property \$147.80 per annum, with varying amounts for other property categories. No other state imposes such a levy. According to the 2006-07 Save the River Murray Fund annual report, there was \$12.5m of unspent money in this Fund at June 30 2007.

According to Table 3.6 in the 2007-08 SA Budget, levy revenues are as follows:

2005-06 - \$20m;
2006-07 (est) – \$21m;
2007-08 (bgt) - \$22m;
2008-09 (est) - \$22m;
2009-10 (est) - \$23m;
2010-11 (est) - \$23m;
2011-12 (est) - \$24m.

2. The **Natural Resource Management (NRM) Levy** is collected by councils and on-passed to State Government to fund the eight regional NRM Boards in South Australia. The levies are paid by landholders and irrigators to fund the activities of the Boards which are responsible for managing and protecting each region's natural resources. The levy is expected to raise \$22.0 million in 2007-08.

The NRM Committee of SA Parliament has concerns about the manner in which the revenue is spent by the NRM Boards:

"It appears that an excessive amount of the NRM levy will be going towards administrative costs and the preparation of the comprehensive NRM plans. The Committee notes with concern that the NRM Boards are failing to meet original expectations as far as on-ground environmental initiatives are concerned..."

~SA Parliament (2006), *Natural Resource Management Boards: Levy Proposals*, Sixth Report of the Natural Resources Committee

The 2007-08 SA Budget papers are available at:

http://www.treasury.sa.gov.au/df/budget/publications_and_downloads/current_budget.jsp