

2024/25 Water Charges



2024/25 Water, Environmental & Stock Water Charges

The Board, as always, has a strong focus on keeping the scheme water charges as low as possible. Managing a budget during the current economic climate is no easy feat, and every endeavour has been taken to set a budget that allows us to control cost escalations, whilst maintaining service. This year there will be a minor increase of \$0.04 per share for Stage 2 shareholders.

Stage 1 (Greenline) shareholders also see a slight increase, with water charges, now at the same level as Stage 2 shareholders. There was an under recovery on the Stage 1 shares last year of \$0.32 in acknowledgement of the \$226,090 closing balance in 2023. The 2024-25 water charge continues to be under recovered.

This year, the main areas driving the increased water charges are:-

- Interest rates
- Electricity
- Insurance
- RDRML Water Charges
- Storage

Environmental charges will see a lift this year. This is mainly due to legal fee's associated with the appeal on the High Court decision, along with an increase in the number of audits that will be required as part of our consent compliance requirements.

The water & environmental charges have been set at:-

- \$7.38 per share for Stage 1 (Greenline) & Stage 2
- \$1,000 per FEP, base charge
- \$10.40 per ha, over 50 ha (total FEP area less 50ha)
- \$200 for Authorised Properties (properties less than 50ha irrigated)
- Administration charge of \$85 per shareholding for those on Direct Debit & \$115 per shareholding for those not on Direct Debit

As previously communicated, stock water charges will now be applicable. This year's rate has been set at \$2.39 per hectare in-scheme and \$9.57 per hectare out-of-scheme (4x the in-scheme rate). All water, environmental & stock water charges are invoiced monthly (in arrears) and split evenly across 11 months of the year, with a balancing invoice in June. Payment of water charges are due on the 20th of the month following invoicing.