

## Mossel Bay Household Electricity Levy

### When it Started

The new household electricity levy in Mossel Bay:

According to official municipal newsletters from June and July 2023, the levy started on **1 July 2023**. Before that, households were on a “1-part tariff” system, which ended in mid-2023. From then on, households had to pay a monthly basic charge.

For a standard 60-amp household, the charge was **R434.17 per month** in 2023/24. Households could lower this amount by switching to 45A or 30A connections. The Council also approved a 5% reduction in the new basic charge from July 2023.

### Household Base

The official 2023 profile shows Mossel Bay has **52,985 households**, with **98.2% having electricity access**. That works out to about **52,031 chargeable households**. This is only an estimate — actual revenue depends on how many households are active, what amp level they use, and whether they qualify for discounts or exemptions.

### Estimated Income from the Levy

Financial Year	Status	Monthly Levy (60A)	Annual Levy	Estimated Paying Households	Gross Income Estimate	Year-on-Year Change
2022/23	Before levy started	R0.00	R0.00	52,031	R0.00	R0.00
2023/24	Levy introduced	R434.17	R5,210.04	52,031	R271,083,591	+R271,083,591
2024/25	Ongoing	R451.54	R5,418.50	52,031	R281,930,182	+R10,846,591
2025/26	Ongoing	R496.70	R5,960.38	52,031	R310,124,324	+R28,194,142

### Note:

- The remembered figure of R475 is not shown in official tariff documents. The actual charges are R434.17 (2023/24), R451.54 (2024/25), and R496.70 (2025/26).
- If all households paid the full levy, the total transfer from household budgets to the municipality over the first three years would be about **R863 million**. This is an upper estimate — actual collections will be lower due to exemptions and discounts.

### Impact on Household Spending Power

This levy takes money directly out of household budgets. While some of the funds are recycled back into the local economy through municipal spending, households immediately have **less disposable income**.

That means less money for shops, restaurants, services, and small businesses in Mossel Bay. The effect is strongest on lower- and middle-income households, who’s spending usually circulates quickly through the local economy.

- In 2023/24, households had about **R271 million less** to spend elsewhere.
- In 2024/25, the figure rose to **R282 million**.
- In 2025/26, it increased again to **R310 million**.

#### **Method Notes**

- This estimate uses public household data and assumes a standard 60A connection.
- It does not account for households on 30A or 45A, nor for pensioner discounts, indigent households, or inactive accounts.
- A more exact figure would require the municipality's internal billing records.