

**State Water Commission  
Budget 770  
Senate Bill Nos. 2023, 2164, 2165, 2188**

|   | <b>FTE Positions</b> | <b>General Fund</b> | <b>Other Funds</b> | <b>Total</b>      |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1999-2001 legislative appropriation                                     | 82.00                | \$9,262,180         | \$130,272,775      | \$139,534,955     |
| 1997-99 legislative appropriation                                       | <u>82.00</u>         | <u>9,246,202</u>    | <u>58,588,525</u>  | <u>67,834,727</u> |
| 1999-2001 appropriation increase<br>(decrease) to 1997-99 appropriation | 0.00                 | \$15,978            | \$71,684,250       | \$71,700,228      |

**NOTE:** The 1999-2001 appropriation amounts include \$89,892, \$53,038 of which is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$5.4 million funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for special market equity adjustments for classified employees and \$794 from the general fund for the agency's share of the \$1.4 million funding pool appropriated to OMB for assisting agencies in providing the \$35 per month minimum salary increases in July 1999 and July 2000.

**Item Description**

**Resources trust fund** - The 1999 Legislative Assembly appropriated a total of \$11,547,104 from the resources trust fund for the 1999-2001 biennium. Section 6 of Senate Bill No. 2023 appropriates resources trust fund revenues in excess of \$11,547,104 to the State Water Commission for the 1999-2001 biennium, subject to Emergency Commission approval.

**Pembina River watershed dam study** - The 1999 Legislative Assembly directed the State Engineer to conduct a comprehensive study of constructing dams and other improvements in the Pembina River watershed for the purpose of reducing flows in the lower reaches of the Pembina River and to report the results to an appropriate committee of the Legislative Council.

**Bonding for statewide water development** - Senate Bill No. 2188 provided for bonding by the State Water Commission for water development projects under the water development trust fund. The agency is allowed to bond for up to \$52 million for Grand Forks flood control, \$20 million for a Devils Lake outlet, \$4.5 million for the Southwest Pipeline Project, \$4.8 million for Grafton flood control, and \$3.5 million for Wahpeton flood control. The total amount of the bonding allowed during the 1999-2001 biennium is \$84.8 million.

**Status/Result**

Through May 2000, oil extraction tax collections have been \$1,106,718 more than projected. As a result, the State Water Commission plans to request an additional \$1 million in spending authority from the resources trust fund for various water projects. This request will be presented to the Emergency Commission at its June 2000 meeting.

The State Water Commission staff has toured the basin, met with local entities, and are conducting hydrologic modeling of the watershed and potential sites. The agency anticipates the report will be available in September 2000 for presentation to the Garrison Diversion Overview Committee.

The State Water Commission sold bonds in March 2000 totaling \$27.5 million for flood control projects. This sale will provide \$23 million for Grand Forks flood control and \$4.5 million for the Southwest Pipeline Project. The \$23 million is based on the state share of the anticipated total costs Grand Forks expects to incur on this project during the biennium ending June 30, 2001. The commission does not anticipate issuing any additional bond sales during the 1999-2001 biennium. The State Water Commission is planning to request reauthorization of the remaining \$57.3 million of the \$84.8 million from the 2001 Legislative Assembly.