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MEDIA RELEASE - BORDER WATCH

UPGRADE TO BENEFIT LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND WASTEWATER PLANT

SA Water recently completed an upgrade at the Finger Point Wastewater Treatment Plant to improve the plant's operation and the quality of treated wastewater.

SA Water Chief Operating Officer John Ringham said the \$1.9m project to install a stainless steel screen and grit removal plant at the Finger Point Wastewater Treatment Plant would improve the performance of the existing plant and the quality of the treated wastewater.

"The removal of the grit and debris prior to wastewater treatment is likely to reduce plant maintenance and help prevent any carryover of the debris into the ocean," Mr Ringham said.

"We've already noticed since the system began operating at the end of September 2007 that a significant amount of grit and debris has been removed.

"A bonus is that the debris-free sludge produced as part of the process now has a greater potential to become reuse biosolids, a product proving popular at our Bolivar Wastewater Treatment Plant north of Adelaide.

"Reuse biosolids have the potential to make great fertiliser due to the considerable amount of organic matter and nutrients."

The system is located at the inlet of the Finger Point Wastewater Treatment plant and waste generated from the screening is transported to a disposal site.