

December 21, 2006

MEDIA RELEASE

SA WATER WORKS WITH CUSTOMERS ON PIPELINE PRESSURE CHANGES

With the commissioning of the Eyre Peninsula Pipeline nearing, SA Water is looking to work with local customers to ensure we manage water pressure changes which may occur as part of the new system.

The \$48.5 million Eyre Peninsula Pipeline is currently in its testing phase - on track to be commissioned in mid-2007 when customers in Kimba, Lock, Darke Peake and Rudall will begin receiving filtered River Murray water.

SA Water Chief Operating Officer John Ringham said once the pipeline is operational, there is a possibility some properties will notice changes to reticulated water pressure due to the change in direction of flow.

"Water which was originally pumped from borefields south of the region via Lock to Kimba, will now be pumped from Kimba to Lock, in the opposite direction," Mr Ringham said.

"Over the following weeks, we will be visiting each customer likely to be affected to ensure their systems operate as usual after these pressure changes. However, noticeable changes to pressure will affect only about 60 of the customers who will receive River Murray water.

"There are a number of property owners in the region who rely on a particular pressure for the internal pipe work and irrigation practices to operate.

"SA Water will work with them to ensure existing pressures are not substantially affected and we will visit each property individually to assess current systems and ensure they can accommodate the change in pressure. We will help develop technical solutions if our customers' systems are unlikely to accommodate the foreshadowed pressure changes."

SA Water has started corresponding with the customers likely to be affected and will arrange times to visit them during January and February to ensure any pressure changes will be managed.

"This way we can ensure our customers' day-to-day activities and businesses are not disadvantaged in any way," Mr Ringham said.