

# News Release

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**Hon Karlene Maywald**

Minister for the River Murray

Minister for Water Security

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Small Business

Minister Asst the Minister for Industry and Trade

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## **NEW PROGRAM TESTS WATER PIPE LEAKAGE**

Nearly \$1 million will be spent to identify and reduce leakage from Adelaide's water supply system as part of a program launched in Largs Bay this week.

Minister for Water Security Karlene Maywald says leakage reduction is one of the aims of the State Government's Water Proofing Adelaide strategy to reduce the pressure on the State's potable water supplies.

"This program will invest about \$230,000 a year to ensure as many leaks as possible are detected as early as possible," Minister Maywald said.

"About 450 kilometres of pipes will be surveyed each year using the most recent sophisticated technology and a specifically commissioned vehicle.

"The leakage detection program 'listens' to pipes and mains and is able to detect possible leaks before they reach the surface, contributing to a more efficient maintenance and replacement program.

"While no country in the world has a water system with zero losses, South Australia's reactive clay soils make it particularly challenging to ensure leaks and bursts are kept to a minimum.

"SA Water already has introduced a successful leakage reduction program that means we have one of the lowest leakage rates in the nation.

"However, the valuable information collected through the new program will help SA Water and United Water reduce water losses even further."

The leakage reduction program begins in Largs Bay this week and will continue for the next four years.