

Wednesday, August 20, 2008

### **LOWER LAKES POTABLE PIPELINES A STEP CLOSER**

A \$50 million project to construct two pipelines supplying potable water to Lower Lakes' communities will be presented to Parliament's Public Works Committee today.

The pipelines will deliver water from Tailem Bend and Strathalbyn to households and properties in the Raukkan, Narrung, Meningie and Langhorne Creek districts and along the Paltalloch Peninsula.

Minister for Water Security Karlene Maywald says about 120 kilometres of pipeline will be built which will improve water security and guarantee consistent water quality for communities currently sourcing water from the Lower Lakes.

"Tenders will be called shortly for companies to build the pipelines with construction scheduled to start by the end of September. First water will be delivered to communities by early 2009.

"The Langhorne Creek and Currency Creek irrigation communities are also working on the proposal to build a pipeline network to supply irrigation water to the region by 2009-10.

"This is the first of several projects to be rolled out as part of the State Government's \$610 million Murray Futures package, funded through the Commonwealth's *Water for the Future* program."

The Murray Futures package includes:

- \$120m for a Lower Lakes pipeline network supplying potable and irrigation water.
- \$200m for adaptive management of the Lower Lakes and Coorong.
- \$110m for reinvigoration of the irrigation sector in irrigation communities.
- \$80m for purchase of water entitlements.
- \$100m for pumping infrastructure modifications and floodplain management from the SA border to Wellington.

"While work on the pipelines will begin shortly, other parts of the Murray Futures package will be subject to extensive community engagement and feasibility work.

"Community engagement will occur on each component of the package with pump relocation and floodplain management to begin in late August, Lower Lakes adaptive management to start next month and industry transition and renewal in early October."