

Tuesday, February 13, 2007

SUMMIT TO ADDRESS EP WATER SECURITY

Minister for Water Security Karlene Maywald will bring together key stakeholders in a forum to address the future of Eyre Peninsula's water resources.

The Eyre Peninsula Water Summit will be held in early March and will include representatives from:

- The EP Natural Resource Management Board.
- Eyre Regional Development Board.
- Local government.
- The Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation.
- SA Water.

“This summit will help to assess where we are up to in securing water resources for the Eyre Peninsula and, importantly, address what must be done in future,” Minister Maywald said.

“It has been five years since the previous plan for water on Eyre Peninsula was completed so it is time to review that, check progress and set direction for the future.

“The issues we must face on the Eyre Peninsula include security of supply and stress created on groundwater resources and a number of options have been raised as potential solutions.

“There has been much public debate on the extent of the problem and just what the viable options for the future are.”

Minister Maywald says the meeting of key leaders is the first step in addressing EP water resource issues, and wider public consultation will follow.

“From this summit, I hope to be able to fully quantify the extent of the problem, identify any gaps we have in information and develop a constructive way forward to deliver water security for the EP into the future.”