



**EYRE VISIT:** Opposition spokesperson for forestry, food and fisheries, agriculture, and the River Murray Adrian Pederick toured Eyre Peninsula last week with Liberal candidate for Flinders Peter Treloar.

## River Murray water shouldn't be used

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EYRE Peninsula needs desalinated water for long term water security and should not be sourcing any water from the River Murray according to opposition spokesperson for the River Murray, agriculture, food and fisheries, and forestry Adrian Pederick.

Mr Pederick toured the West Coast last week with Liberal candidate for Flinders Peter Treloar speaking to farmers and seafood industry representatives, and he said water security was one of the biggest issues for local people, along with infrastructure and power needs.

"It's ridiculous to be sending River Murray water to Ceduna when private proposals for desalination plants have been denied access to (SA Water) pipelines," Mr Pederick said.

He said there was a lot of potential for small desalination plants along the West Coast to provide water for existing communities and further growth.

He is concerned about siting a desalination plant to supply the Olympic Dam expansion in Spencer Gulf and believes a West Coast plant could supply the mine.

Mr Pederick said the power supply also needed to be augmented because local industry was at its limit in terms of power supply and infrastructure needs included an alternative port for mineral exports.

He said a new port at Sheep Hill needed to be fast tracked to help the region reach its significant potential.

Mr Pederick also met with South Australian Oyster Growers Association president Bruce Zippel during his visit and was pleased to see the industry was making progress in discussions with the State Government about licence fees after he met with growers on his last visit to hear about their concerns over large fee increases.