



**Re-announcement Alert
16 November 2007**

In accordance with the Rann Labor government's modus operandi to continually announce, then re-announce and re-announce news again and again while covering up their shortcomings today, 4 months since the previous announcement and months after the Federal offer of matching funding Liz Penfold, Member for Flinders re-announces the sealing of the Lucky Bay road. However the bad news is that the sealing has been delayed until February 2008.

"Now the road will not be in time for the busy Christmas and New Year traffic as originally promised. Rather, in line with much of the State's transport infrastructure projects it has been delayed with completion expected hopefully next February," she said.

Mrs. Penfold said the reality is that the state government had to be dragged kicking and screaming from the outset to help fund this road.

She said the federal government offered \$900,000 for the project about 2 years ago providing the State Government matched the funding. But that commitment didn't come.

Despite the state government saying it fully supported the proposal, Minister Conlon said no funding would be committed to the road until the project proved to be a success.

"Success was quickly established with millions of dollars spent on infrastructure and a second new ferry has been commissioned."

"In 48 weeks there have been 1674 crossings with 71,521 passengers traveling in 26,972 cars, 331 trucks, 104 buses and 607 motorbikes – a success story in anyone's books," Mrs Penfold said, "and all this despite the unsealed road."

In May this year the state government finally announced support for the ferry by committing funding for the Lucky Bay road and the Federal government came on board with their renewed commitment of \$900,000.

Mrs Penfold congratulated SeaSA's proponents, Stephanie Dawson and Stuart Ballantyne for their tenacity in believing in the project, taking the risks and being so patient.

Ends

**Will success bring about a road seal?
14 March 2007**

The Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association has requested the state Transport Minister to reclassify the access road from Lincoln Highway to Lucky Bay as a Rural Arterial Road.

The request follows the success of the Spencer Gulf ferry from Lucky Bay to Wallaroo which carried 20,000 passengers in three months, with patronage continuing to rise.

Member for Flinders Liz Penfold, in supporting the request, said the link has already become a primary link between Eyre Peninsula and Adelaide, making the 12.5 kilometre access road a road of economic importance for both business and tourism.

“The link lessens maintenance for hundreds of kilometres of road that otherwise would be travelled, therefore the access road becomes a money saver for the government,” she said.

“Reclassification will make the state responsible for the road, thus removing the current inequitable burden on the Franklin Harbour District Council for what has quickly turned into a road of economic importance.”

Mrs Penfold said the current 12.5 kilometres of unsealed road is a safety trap for motorists unused to dirt roads with safety further compromised because of freight traffic and trucks, a situation will only escalate in the future.

“The second ferry, due to start in November, is expected to double the service and to attract more trucks and general freight.

“SeaSA is now planning packages that will combine the ferry and upper Spencer Gulf region which, I have no doubt, will prove popular and bring even more passengers across the gulf,” she said.

Mrs Penfold said the most common theme is that travellers arrive fresh rather than worn out as the long drive to Adelaide is broken by the ferry trip which is a bonus for truckies and the compulsory rest periods they must take.

Urgent call to seal ferry road 30 January 2007

Member for Flinders Liz Penfold has asked that petitions requesting the sealing of the Lucky Bay ferry road be returned to her office as soon as possible for presentation to parliament in the sitting week starting 6th February.

“The need for the road to be sealed was highlighted by the monsoonal rains that cut off Eyre Peninsula from the rest of the state when roads around Port Augusta and to the north were closed.

“It shows how vulnerable the outlying towns and districts are.

“Now that we have an alternative access to Eyre Peninsula and the west, we need to make it sure that it is secured as an all weather alternative,” she said.

Mrs Penfold said the petition was started prior to the torrential downpours that stopped all road traffic, including that on the main east-west highway across Australia, however it is a reminder that seasonal extremes do occur and should be planned for where possible especially with winter approaching.

“This road must be sealed before the new larger ferry starts in March, when there will be double the number of vehicles travelling to the ferry, otherwise it will be a mud slide of a road through winter.”

Petitions can still be downloaded from the website www.lizpenfold.com and are available in Liz Penfold's office, outlets around Cowell and on the ferry for those who have not signed and who would like to do so. ENDS

Lucky Bay - Unlucky Road? 21 December 2006

Mrs Penfold, Member for Flinders says there is a petition now available for people to sign to lobby the government to seal the Lucky Bay Road, which connects Lucky Bay to Lincoln Highway

“After many obstacles the Wallaroo to Lucky Bay Ferry is finally up and running, with almost 1000 people crossing in the first week alone. However the state government still has not committed funds to help seal the Lucky Bay Road,” she said.

In November 2005 the state government said it fully supported the proposal but had not committed any funding to it and would not do so until the project proved to be a success. This is despite the operators spending millions of dollars on infrastructure and commissioning a new ferry for the service.

So we are still waiting.

Mrs Penfold says, “It is a disgrace that the state government will not commit funding to this exciting new tourist attraction that will save people valuable time and energy, the environment, greenhouse gases and the government road maintenance and the cost of road injuries and deaths.”

“Stuart Ballantyne and Stephanie Dawson of Sea Transport Corp have completed this project entirely at their own expense for the benefit of all users, local, national and international” Mrs Penfold said

“The Ferry is an attraction in itself and will contribute to the states tourism industry however hire cars, caravan towers and elderly drivers in particular are reluctant to use a dirt road. The Labor government are all for promoting their SA A Brilliant Blend tourism campaign so why don't they put their money where their mouth is.” Mrs Penfold said.

Petitions can be accessed at www.lizpenfold.com or by contacting Liz Penfold's office on (08) 8683 0722.

**Ferry one step closer
28 October 2005**

A ferry service between Lucky Bay and Wallaroo is one step closer following approval by the Development Assessment Commission (DAC) for docking facilities at Lucky Bay.

Member for Flinders Liz Penfold said DAC has finally given approval for the required area of coastline needed for docking.

“After such a long wait, I am very excited that what I hope is the highest of the hurdles has been jumped,” she said.

“The time is right for a ferry service for Eyre Peninsula.”

This element of the proposal now goes to the Minister for Planning Paul Holloway for signing off.

Mrs Penfold said that a couple of issues are still to be finalised however it is hoped that the first ferry will be running in the new year.

“The operating company, Sea Transport SA, plans two ferries doing a total of 16 crossings (eight return trips) per day and transporting up to 62 vehicles and 400 passengers each trip.

“The crossing would take about an hour and three quarters and save three and a quarter hours of driving time,” she said.

Mrs Penfold said it is estimated that the operation of one ferry would reduce greenhouse gases by 400% compared with vehicles travelling by road.

“Conditions are attached to the approval however this is a significant step forward.

"The ferry will open up huge business and tourism opportunities for Eyre Peninsula, along with social issues relating to education, health and culture," she said.

Ferry service looking positive 16 September 2005

A deputation to the Premier and the Ministers responsible for approving a ferry service from Wallaroo to Eyre Peninsula was held in Parliament House yesterday.

The deputation sought to remove the remaining obstacles holding up the proposed ferry link.

Rob Kerin, Leader of the Opposition, led the deputation to the Premier Mike Rann, the Minister for Infrastructure Pat Conlon and the Minister for the Environment John Hill together with Liz Penfold Member for Flinders and John Meier Member for Goyder.

Others at the deputation included the proponent of the ferry, Stuart Ballantyne, the Chief Executive Officer of the Eyre Regional Development Board Mark Cant, the Chief Executive Officer of the Franklin Harbour Council Bruce Francis, the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer of the Copper Coast District Council Paul Thomas and Peter Dinning, the Manager Coastal Protection Branch Rob Tucker and the Executive Director for Transport Energy and Infrastructure Rod Hooke.

Mr. Ballantyne gave a power point presentation on the ferry which included the benefits of the ferry in cutting freight costs, road maintenance, travel time and greenhouse gas emissions.

"At a time when heavy transport costs are escalating it is clear the ferry costs will remain relatively stable and provide a less expensive transport option" Mr. Ballantyne said.

It was envisaged there would be two ferries operating, making a total of 16 crossings between Wallaroo and Lucky Bay each day.

The ferry could carry 62 cars and 400 passengers and the journey would take 1¼ hours.

While no problems existed in berthing the ferry at Wallaroo, the impact of sea grasses and sand movement were issues of concern at Lucky Bay.

Following the presentations and questions the Premier indicated further discussion between the proponents and the Development Officers from Coast Protection and Infrastructure should occur in the next two weeks since the Development Assessment Council (DAC) would be handing down its findings on 6th October this year when their recommendation would go to the Minister for Planning Paul Holloway.

"I feel much more hopeful since the meeting yesterday that the ferry to go ahead. It will stimulate tourism growth, be a boon to transport operators and will be a huge benefit to people travelling to Adelaide for health, education and cultural reasons," Mrs. Penfold said.

Premier urged to back ferry service 12 September 2005

Premier Mike Rann will be urged to give the green light for a proposed ferry service between Wallaroo and Lucky Bay on upper Eyre Peninsula when he meets on Thursday (September 15) with a delegation led by Member for Flinders Liz Penfold, Member for Goyder John Meier and Opposition Leader Rob Kerin.

"The service and its infrastructure will be installed and run by a private company and will not require any State Government assistance," Mrs Penfold said. "It will make a big difference to the lives of people on Eyre Peninsula, as it will cut travelling time for a return trip to Adelaide by six hours.

"This is a social justice issue, because the ferry will improve access for EP people to health, education, business and government services in Adelaide. It will be particularly helpful for people who have to travel to Adelaide for ongoing

medical treatment, such as chemotherapy.

“The ferry service will also attract more tourists to EP, as they will be able to travel to the region from Adelaide in their cars and by ferry in less than three hours,” Mrs Penfold said. “It will create a new freight service for imports and exports from EP and reduce usage of our highways by hundreds of trucks and cars each day.”

“Environmentally, the proposal is a winner, as it will reduce harmful vehicle emissions and it will help bring down the tragic road toll and road maintenance costs. Every ferry crossing will reduce vehicle emissions by about 400 per cent, if you compared it with those vehicles driving the extra 330km for a one-way trip to or from Adelaide. Pro-environment groups are expected to support the project due to its clear environmental objectives.”

“We are hopeful the Premier will see the significant benefits of the service to the whole of South Australia and remove any impediments to its development.”

The meeting with the Premier will also be attended by the ferry proponent Mr Stuart Ballantyne of Sea Transport SA, and Bruce Francis chief executive of Franklin Harbour District Council, Peter Dinning CEO Copper Coast District Council and Mark Cant, CEO Eyre Regional Development Board.

Mrs Penfold said the project was being held up because it had not received approval from the Coastal Protection Board, which had expressed concern about the sand drift along the small section of seafront at Lucky Bay that would be used for mooring facilities. Lucky Bay is 16km north of Cowell.

“The facilities will only take up about 120 metres of coastline and the developers are keen to work with the government to ensure that any possible impact on the environment is kept to a minimum,” Mrs Penfold said.