



LIZ BACKS CEDUNA

15 AUGUST 2002

The State Member for Flinders, Liz Penfold, says she is outraged at disparaging remarks about Ceduna made by a senior Labor Party front bencher.

Mrs Penfold says Labor's Shadow Attorney General Michael Atkinson may have made the remarks in jest, nevertheless he owed the people of Ceduna an apology.

"I have received phone calls from Ceduna residents who are offended that Mr Atkinson would even insinuate that theirs is an undesirable part of the State," Mrs Penfold said.

On late night talk back radio the following exchange occurred between announcer Bob Francis and Mr Atkinson.

Announcer Bob Francis: *"I've used Barton Road seven times a week for the last five years ... I'm just waiting for a policeman to pull me over ... I'll really say rack off and do another job because this is not the place for you to hit me with a \$136 fine"*

Michael Atkinson: *"After Labor gets into office any policeman who pulls you over at Barton road we'll send them to Ceduna"...*

Radio 5AA approx 11.45pm, 14 August, 2001

"I'm sure he wouldn't make the same sort of remark – even in a joking manner – about any of the suburbs in his electorate," Mrs Penfold said.

"He clearly doesn't know the area, or he has something against regional South Australia.

"It's just not on. People in areas like Ceduna are working very hard to get this State back on its feet. If it wasn't for their efforts South Australia's economy certainly wouldn't be in as good a shape as it is today.

"A person who is a senior member of the Labor Party and a self proclaimed future Attorney General should know better. This clearly shows what the Labor Party thinks of those of us who live in Regional SA."

Mrs Penfold called on Mr Atkinson to issue an immediate apology.

"He might also like to step out of his ivory tower and visit the place one day. I am sure he will be pleasantly surprised," Mrs Penfold said.