



## **WATER MASTER PLAN KEY TO EYRE PENINSULA'S FUTURE**

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The Eyre Peninsula Water Supply Masterplan could be the key to unlocking the unlimited potential of the region, Member for Flinders Liz Penfold said.

She commended the Minister for Government Enterprises, Michael Armitage, and his department for developing the strategy.

SA Water's General Manager Infrastructure, John Williams, met with Eyre Peninsula Council officers last week to brief them on the Terms of Reference for the study. A time line has been established for a response to Streaky Bay's water concerns with a report due at the end of July 2001

"I have been asking for a strategy for the whole of Eyre Peninsula for some time," she said.

"We are victims of our own success. A properly developed master plan could bring about advances that have only been dreams in the past."

Mrs Penfold said an improved water supply will be the catalyst for land development and the further expansion of some towns, also the expansion of existing industries and the establishment of others.

"An adequate water supply that supports land development and industries leads to more families in the district with a flow-on effect to services, the school, sports – in fact, all aspects of the community.

"It is an upward merry-go-round of prosperity," she said.

Mrs Penfold said greater water supplies would enable more development of our horticultural industries particularly grapes and olives.

"We have the land, and we can keep our own people on Eyre Peninsula with our wonderful quality of life," she said.

However augmenting the existing supply on Eyre Peninsula was needed if we are to reach our potential.

"Desalination using solar and wind power are both options that need to be assessed, while water re-use, water saving and the potential to assist the recharge of aquifers are all options that I have been investigating since they can all help to improve our position.

"I thank all those who have worked on this with me over the years. It's an exciting step towards a more prosperous future."