

# News Release **Minister Geoff Brock**

Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Local Government

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## Strong regional response to Major Projects Program

There's been a strong response to calls for Expressions of Interest to develop major projects in the regions through the State Government's expanded \$15 million Regional Development Fund.

Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock said the fund was designed to generate economic growth and stimulate job opportunities and new investment in the regions.

"The \$8.55 million Major Projects Program closed last week and has attracted 40 Expressions of Interest from across regional South Australia," he said.

The regional breakdown of the 40 Expressions of Interest submitted to the Major Projects Program are:

- 2 from the Adelaide Hills region
- 4 from the Barossa Light and Lower North region
- 2 from the Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island region
- 6 from the Far North region
- 2 from Eyre and Western region
- 8 from the Limestone Coast region
- 8 from the Murray and Mallee region
- 8 from the Yorke and Mid North region.

Minister Brock said the fund will support major economic projects designed to strengthen regional industries, and support local economies and opportunities through investment in strategic projects.

"Regions SA has been inundated with responses, which is very encouraging and a clear indication that organisations in our regions are ready to invest," he said.

"The Major Projects Program is designed to provide funding from \$500,000 up to a maximum of \$2 million with leveraged investment at a minimum of \$3 for each \$1 grant.

"Larger amounts may be considered where there are outstanding benefits for the region and the State."

The Minister said there are further opportunities for major investment in the regions through the \$3 million Community Infrastructure Program, with Expressions of Interest for this program closing on Friday 1 August.

"This fund supports investment in regional communities to develop economic infrastructure and grow their capabilities as a foundation for future jobs and economic growth," he said.

“It provides grants of a minimum of \$300,000 up to \$1 million with leveraged investment at a minimum ratio of \$2 for each \$1 grant.”

“Both these new programs have the potential to significantly create sustainable economic benefits, not just for regional communities, but for the State overall.

“The significant increase in the Regional Development Fund from \$1.6 million to \$15 million a year is part of my agreement with the Premier.

“The increase in the fund is part of the \$39 million package I negotiated that will be spent in the regions over the next 12 months, including \$10 million for a one-off Jobs Accelerator Fund,” Mr Brock said.