

## Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development  
Minister for Local Government

Tuesday, 4 August, 2015

### \$200,000 State Government grant for Robarra expansion

Robe's largest employer is expanding and increasing its environmentally sustainable barramundi production facility in the Limestone Coast region with the aid of new water recycling technology.

Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock said the \$200,000 upgrade to Robarra's Robe-based site and associated infrastructure would support sustainable industry growth in the region and generate employment opportunities.

"The funding for the expansion has been made available through the enhanced \$15 million a year Regional Development Fund," Mr Brock said.

"Robarra's increased production capacity will expand the company's presence in the premium food market and allow it to target larger retailers nationally.

"The expansion will help to will develop further growth in the region's economy, create direct employment and allow for greater interstate and possibly international export.

"Ten full time equivalent positions will be created by 2016-17 through this project, in addition to increasing job security for the current workforce.

"The company is building on successful trials of bio-filters and the development of a live distribution system to increase production levels.

"They've developed a bio-filter which recirculates water back through the fish tank, which improves the water quality without relying on adding fresh water.

"This increased water purity allows for an additional increase in fish stock density and improves fish health, subsequently reducing mortality rates," Mr Brock said.

"Robarra has completed extensive trialling of a system prototype and is now ready to roll it out on a commercial level.

"Additionally, the by-product generated from this process can be used to water and fertilise the surrounding farmland, ensuring the company get maximum environmental benefits from the system," Mr Brock said.

This initiative aligns with the State Government's economic priorities of 'Premium food and wine produced in our clean environment and exported to the world' and 'Growth through innovation'.

For more information visit [www.pir.sa.gov.au/regions/programs/rdf](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/regions/programs/rdf)