

## News releases - Geoff Brock

# **\$50,000 for Coorong water transportation scheme feasibility study**

**November 18, 2016**

The feasibility of a water transportation scheme in the Coorong and Tatiara District Council regions will be investigated with \$50,000 support from the State Government.

The project, led by the Coorong District Council, will gather information and analyse the viability of the scheme as a way of reducing the cost of water for local primary producers, industry, business and community.

The establishment of the scheme has the potential to provide an alternative method for water provision in the area, reducing end-user costs through a collaborative approach to purchasing and holding water and access to water delivery infrastructure.

If deemed viable, the initiative has the potential to bring significant economic benefit to the area, reducing the cost of doing business and creating the conditions for future jobs growth.

### **Background**

The funding support follows the Regions in Focus roadshow with Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock, at which the issue of water security, access and cost was identified as a key economic priority for the Murray and Mallee region.

The Regions in Focus roadshow brought together leaders and interest groups in each South Australian region in 2015 to identify the top three regional economic development priorities for the region.

This project aligns with the State Government economic priorities of 'Premium food and wine from our clean environment and exported to the world', 'Growth through innovation' and 'South Australia – the best place to do business'.

### **Quotes attributable to Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock**

The feasibility study will look at water delivery to a large agricultural area through fresh eyes and will enhance our understanding of how such a project may be implemented.

I am pleased to be able to support this initiative that may determine an innovative way forward for the region to ensure its water sustainability.

This project has the potential to contribute significantly to the local and state economies, leading to job creation and demonstrating that regional South Australia really is the best place to do business.

### **Quotes attributable to Coorong District Council Chief Executive Officer Vincent Cammell**

The cost of mains water has become a barrier for the expansion of intensive animal production and dryland livestock production systems in the Coorong and Tatiara District Council areas.

Coorong District Council and our partners in this proposal are committed to driving economic development by reducing the cost of doing business in this region.

We thank the State Government for supporting this initiative, which has wide support from local primary producers, agribusiness and organisations.