



MEDIA RELEASE

ROBERT BROKENSHERE
FAMILY FIRST
WATER SECURITY SPOKESPERSON



“FLOOD RUDD AND RANN” WITH MESSAGE: WE NEED URGENT FLOW

Friday 1 August 2008

FAMILY FIRST MLC Robert Brokenshere has today called upon members of the public to write, fax, call or e-mail the Prime Minister and Premier urging them to release an environmental flow for the Lower Murray and Lower Lakes & Coorong.

Mr Brokenshere said:

- “nothing is more important for South Australia than water, water, water”
- Dr Bill Young, the CSIRO’s chief water scientist and also a project manager for the MDB Water Assessment group, gave evidence recently at a Parliamentary Hearing saying that a 400GL release of water from the Menindee Lakes would be sufficient to bring the Lower Lakes up to sea level.
- MDB Commission records show that the Menindee Lakes’ capacity is 1,731 GL and they presently hold 536GL (31% capacity, per 17 July report).
- “I’ve written to the Prime Minister and Premier already urging them to release environmental flow for the lower lakes”
- “A gentleman said recently, a turtle dying in the River Murray and lakes at the moment is like a canary dying underground in a mining development”
- “a recent report predicted that the Lower Lakes would be irreparably damaged if they do not receive water by October – that is less than 2 months away now, and we have to allow time for water to travel from point of release to the lakes!”

Mr Brokenshere urges members of the public to also contact the Premier and Prime Minister urging them to release an environmental flow to save the Lower Murray.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Office of Prime Minister

The Hon. Kevin Rudd MP

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The Hon Mike Rann MP

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Mr Brokenshere will be present at the Rally on Friday 1 August from 11:30am and available afterwards for interviews and meetings at Parliament House.

For further information contact: **Robert Brokenshere** on 0419 815 990 or 08 8237 9122