



# MEDIA RELEASE

HON ROBERT BROKENSHERE MLC

**FAMILY FIRST**  
*The Independent Party*



## FAMILY FIRST LEADS CROSSBENCH FIGHT OVER MELBOURNE PIPELINE

**Wednesday 26 September 2008**

FAMILY FIRST MLC Robert Brokenshere has today used Standing Orders to override Question Time for an urgency debate to back up a Senate amendment that would stop the 75-gigalitre-per-annum-extracting Sugarloaf pipeline from the Goulburn River to Melbourne.

In a heated debate, crossbench members united to abandon Question Time and stage an urgent debate calling on the Premier to contact Prime Minister Rudd this afternoon to urge him to support the Senate amendment for the sake of 75GL of return to the River Murray.

“Crossbench members agreed this was an important debate to have today, and FAMILY FIRST thanks the Hons Mark Parnell, Sandra Kanck, Ann Bressington and John Darley for their support”, Mr Brokenshere said, “We have been hoodwinked in South Australia by the COAG agreement, and the Victorian Government will again get away with parochialism by taking 75 gigalitres per annum without sufficient auditing requirement to show they are saving that amount”

Last night’s Senate amendment bans any post-July-08 infrastructure works that would take water from the Murray-Darling Basin – which clearly includes the Sugarloaf Pipeline.

“The State Government has not done enough for South Australia’s water security needs, it has instead played baby brother caving in to the big ALP family and in particular bully big brother Victoria”

“The ALP contributions on today’s debate finally admitted – after dodging the question in last month’s debate on the Murray handover package in State Parliament – that the State Government always wanted city-based industries to be included as ‘critical human needs’. They have preferred one industry over the other, namely Adelaide industry over horticulture and agriculture”

“FAMILY FIRST have always supported industry however agriculture (including family farms) is still industry and they should have got support for permanent plantings if we are to continue to be a food-bowl”