



**RANN GOVT SHOULD INVEST IN REGIONAL AREAS**  
**10 October 2005**

The Rann Government must stop squandering money and instead invest in technology to assist people living in regional areas, Member for Flinders Liz Penfold said today.

Mrs Penfold's comments follow the announcement that the government was funding solar panels for Adelaide's new airport terminal.

"We need a government that supports the innovative use of new technology to help supply a real need in a remote community that will provide jobs and prosperity to the whole State," she said.

"Imagine the headline '*Solar powered desalination plant to deliver 5 giga litres of water to Eyre Peninsula!*'. Now, that would be something of which to be proud.

"Retro fitted solar panels fitted to government buildings, school buildings that already have power and now the airport – at great cost to taxpayers – will not provide jobs or add to the prosperity of the people of this State.

"It's just another media gimmick from Media Mike.

"The most frustrating thing is that private enterprise would build a desalination plant at Ceduna on the West Coast of Eyre Peninsula if it were given just a small amount of support from this Labor Government.

"Instead, Labor is doing what Labor always does, squandering money and the opportunity to provide innovative leadership and real jobs and prosperity in a pathetic attempt to raise his profile from Media Mike to Mighty Mike."