



MARINE INNOVATION SA EXPANSION
29 September 2005

Marine Innovation SA (MISA) aims to position South Australia as a world class centre for marine science, education and industry development, Member for Flinders Liz Penfold, said.

“Port Lincoln is the premier fishing port in Australia.

“Fisheries and aquaculture industries comprise the State’s sixth largest export sector, while SA seafood production comprises just over one fifth of the Australian fisheries and aquaculture industries.

“The MISA project is the adjunct that has been missing from the picture to ensure a complete approach to sustainability and development in the many fishing industries well into the future,” she said.

“MISA’s vision is to establish South Australia as the internationally recognised centre for excellence in southern temperate marine research, education, teaching and development.

“Our young people will no longer have to go to Tasmania or some other place away from their home state to study,” she said.

Chancellor of Flinders University, Sir Eric Neal, said MISA is founded upon pooling resources and abilities to act together and will position South Australia as an education hub for the marine and aquatic sciences, attracting world-class scientists and teachers.

He said MISA is significant in terms of education both at tertiary and vocational levels. Teaching and training could be ensured to be ‘seamless’ from secondary to higher degree levels.

“We already have credit transfer between TAFE and Flinders University in the study of aquaculture.

“We envisage other arrangements where a student can begin studying at any level and move through the system to maximise the benefit to their present job and future career aspirations,” he said.

The first state of construction is \$4.8 million and due to begin in 2006 with four further stages to follow.

MISA is a state government initiative in partnership with the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), Flinders University, University of Adelaide, SA Museum and the seafood industry.

“I congratulate all those who have helped to bring the project to fruition,” Mrs. Penfold said.

The MISA Steering Committee and MISA working groups included 60 representatives drawn from those groups as well as the Australian Seafood Industry Council, SA Seafood Industry Council, Seafood Council (SA), Tuna Boat Owners Association of SA, TBOA of Australia, SA Marine Finfish Farmers Association, Australian Fisheries Academy, TAFE, Rock Lobster Industry Association, Aquaculture SA, regional development boards and CSIRO.

