

Mining needs this road 3 October 2007

Member for Flinders Liz Penfold called on state and federal governments to get behind the Wirrulla-Glendambo road as a major project.

Mrs Penfold made the request during her visit to Wirrulla and upper Eyre Peninsula with the SA Farmers Federation (SAFF) drought tour.

"Now that Olympic Dam is set to more than double, and other northern mines are coming on stream, the time is right to upgrade this important connecting road to an all-weather surface in preparation for sealing it," she said.

"The Wirrulla-Glendambo road is a strategic link for mining and tourism development and should be sealed as soon as possible but will provide an added bonus if undertaken now. All farmers are multi skilled and would appreciate the work.

"Local jobs will boost the small town economies that are being squeezed by the drought," she said.

Mrs Penfold said Streaky Bay District Council and the Outback Areas Trust could work together to provide project management and employ and contract locally.

"This project will be an iconic one in regional South Australia and now is the optimum time to do it. The road has already been sectioned by the Department of Transport and is ready to start - all it needs is funding.

"I call on governments – state and federal – to fund this project now," she said. ENDS