

## Adrian Pederick MP

Member for Hammond

Monday, 11 February 2013

### **‘No Wash Zones’ unknown by Minister**

Minister for the River Murray, Ian Hunter, has demonstrated his lack of knowledge about the River Murray Eco Action Group’s proposed plans for ‘No Wash Zones’, which aims to restrict boating in popular sites along the River.

In Parliament on Thursday, 7 February, questions asked of Minister Hunter regarding the River Murray Eco Action Group’s plans were met with long winded answers regarding the riverbank collapse and the hazard program established under the State Emergency Management Plan in 2009.

“It is alarming that Minister Hunter could not differentiate between the issues of riverbank collapse and the River Murray Eco Action Group’s proposal – two entirely different issues – especially considering the amount of media coverage on the No Wash Zones proposal,” Mr Pederick said.

“At no stage did the Minister go close to providing answers to questions that concerned river users have raised about the River Murray Eco Action Group’s proposal.”

The River Murray Eco Action Group’s campaign for No Wash Zones has caused considerable angst amongst riverside communities.

The campaign includes five No Wash Zones for the Hammond electorate.

“Minister Hunter is out of his depth in his portfolio,” Mr Pederick said.

“The honeymoon period since taking on the River Murray portfolio has lapsed and the Minister who is responsible for such an important feature of South Australia must get up to speed with his portfolio.”