

KAP wrong on MDB

In response to the Katter's Australian Party policy on the Murray Darling Basin, as reported in the Southern Argus 25 April publication. The Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick offers the following information.

The local member who is well versed in the Lower Murray Coorong and Lakes district area following a keen interest in recent reforms and Murray Darling Basin issues, disputes the views of the KAP with particular regards to its plan for the Lower Lakes.

The KAP plan to return the Lower Lakes and Coorong systems 'to their former state as an estuarine delta' and implement a highly contentious 'Lock Zero' flies in the face of the many River Murray reforms undergone in recent years.

In all its communication, the KAP recognises a water management strategy is necessary for our farmers and communities, however fails to consider those living in the Lower Lakes area that will be directly impacted by this policy.

I fail to see how an estuarine delta will

support the primary producers of the region or the well-

being of the Lower Lakes community.

I fail to see how an estuarine delta will assist sustaining Australia's food security.

The River Murray is no longer a naturally occurring system yet the KAP present this idea as something that will ultimately solve all of the Murray Darling Basin's issues.

Infrastructure is necessary and has played a vital role in regulating flows and the management of the River Murray system since the early 1900s.

The KAP argument completely ignores the recently agreed to MDB reforms that will deliver more water to sensitive sites right throughout the River Murray system.

A healthy system that is the objective of the latest MDB reforms will deliver positive outcomes for irrigators, communities and the environment.