

# Pederick plans to pressure Brock

ADRIAN Pederick may have been passed over for a ministry portfolio after the State election, but Opposition Leader Steven Marshall has found something else to keep him busy.

The Member for Hammond will chair an internal Liberal committee that will work with - or pressure - independent Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock on issues pertaining to country South Australia.

The committee's membership includes parliamentary secretaries and backbenchers from across the State: Riverland and Mallee MP Tim Whetstone, the Eyre Peninsula's Peter Treloar, new Mount Gambier representative Troy Bell, the Fleurieu's Michael Pengilly and upper house MP John Dawkins.

Mr Pederick said the regional affairs committee would draw attention to what he described as successive Labor governments' neglect of regional South Australia.

"This committee will put pressure on the Weatherill Labor government to keep its post-election commitments and will highlight the many issues fac-

ing regional communities," he said.

"The regional affairs committee will look at regional health, education and infrastructure matters as well as issues concerning the primary industries and the environment.

"Committee members will engage with industry leaders, key stakeholders and local governments and we hope to meet with Minister Brock regularly to discuss matters concerning South Australia's regional communities."

Mr Pederick said Mr Brock would be held accountable for his decisions.

He said country South Australia made a critical contribution to economic growth, as demonstrated by strong performers such as Thomas Foods, Australian Portable Camps and Adelaide Mushrooms.

The Murray Bridge Racecourse development at Gifford Hill, to which the State Liberals promised \$15 million during the election campaign, will be among the committee's priorities.

Mr Pederick said he had encouraged Mr Brock and Recreation and Sport Minister Leon Bignell to come and see the development first-hand.