

Friday August 12, 2011

## **Adrian Pederick MP**

Shadow Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries  
Shadow Minister for Forests

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### **Pederick questions rapid Exit Grant fund exhaustion**

News that the Exceptional Circumstances Exit Grant funds for 2011/12 have already been exhausted has raised questions from the local state MP.

Adrian Pederick, who is state Shadow Minister for Agriculture and whose electorate of Hammond covers most of the areas that were granted an extension of EC program for a further twelve months from July 2011, said it seemed remarkable that the \$9.6 million allocated for Exit Grants in the 2011/12 federal budget could have been taken up so quickly.

'One could be forgiven for thinking that some of those funds went to cover applications lodged in the 2010/11 program year.

'We all expected the money would run out before the twelve months was up but for it to happen so quickly does raise suspicions.

'I call on state Agriculture Minister Michael O'Brien to ask his federal counterpart for a look at the books to make sure struggling SA farmers have not been shut out unfairly in some way.'

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Visit Adrian's website [www.adrianpederick.com](http://www.adrianpederick.com).