

MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP JP

Member for Hammond

Shadow Minister for

The River Murray - Forests

Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

Monday October 19, 2009

More cuts for agriculture industry

How many more positions from the agriculture industry does the State Government plan to cut?

That was the question of Shadow Minister for Agriculture Adrian Pederick Parliament last week – a question that was largely unanswered.

To date 90 Primary Industries and Resources South Australia staff have accepted targeted voluntary separation packages, and rural communities who stand to lose local officers and services are concerned.

“Rural and regional communities deserve to know what specific services have been cut, and how many from regional South Australia,” Mr Pederick said.

“The Government says it is focusing on the services the community wants and uses, but the communities are telling me a different story.

“While every country person may not use services which PIRSA provide, they remain an integral service for our primary producers – who provide our State and country with food and valuable exports.

“Agriculture Minister Paul Caica stated earlier today that the Government values the important contribution that agriculture makes to the economy and its importance in sustaining regional communities – well the Government has a funny way of showing it.”