



MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP

Member for Hammond

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'What does it take for more equitable water restrictions' asks Pederick

In State Parliament last Wednesday, Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick asked what it would take for Level 4 or 5 restrictions to be introduced to urban water users, to ease the demand on the State's diminishing water supply.

'If we're in a 1 in 1,000 year drought, (as described by the Premier earlier this month), why aren't they on Level 4 or 5? Does it take a 1 in 10,000 year drought ...?' Mr Pederick said.

He was responding to the strong feeling evident at recent drought forums that country people, particularly irrigators and primary producers, seem to be bearing most of the load.

Mr Pederick also questioned why the Government was reluctant to make public details of other possible measures and solutions to the already serious water shortage because they 'may be discarded'.

'One cannot help but wonder if the Premier's recent bold announcement of a weir at Wellington - which had since been described as only a maybe - had more to do with impressing city-based voters than offering a genuine, practical and considered solution to a potentially devastating situation.'

'If the Government was genuine about not alarming the public unnecessarily, they would have held the weir idea back until it had been more fully examined before causing massive concern and upsetting to so many producers in the Lower Murray and Lakes who grow so much of the produce that feeds the state,' Mr Pederick said.

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