



MEDIA RELEASE

Senator Penny Wong
Minister for Climate Change and Water
Mark Butler MP
Member for Port Adelaide

Mayor Gillian Aldridge
Mayor of the City of Salisbury
Tony Zappia MP
Member for Makin

PW 211/08

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SALISBURY STORMWATER PROJECT TO REDUCE MURRAY RIVER RELIANCE

Adelaide's reliance on the River Murray will be reduced through a stormwater harvesting project at Salisbury that will receive \$6.5 million in funding from the Rudd Government.

"The Salisbury Stormwater Harvesting Project will re-use up to 6.3 billion litres of stormwater each year that is currently discharged to Gulf St Vincent," Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator Penny Wong, said.

Federal Member for Port Adelaide, Mark Butler, said the stormwater would be re-used in Northern Adelaide.

"This project will reduce our reliance on the River Murray and improve Adelaide's water security as climate change reduces water availability from rainfall and run-off in the southern Murray-Darling Basin," Mr Butler said.

Member for Makin, Tony Zappia, said the project was a great example of a local project making a big contribution to securing water supplies.

"The Rudd Government's funding contribution will be supported by funds from the South Australian Government and the Salisbury City Council, representing another example of governments working together to deliver much-needed water security," Mr Zappia said.

The Salisbury project will provide for stormwater to be cleansed in wetlands at Whites Road and Summers Road in Northern Adelaide before being injected into the aquifers below the Northern Adelaide Plains.

The project will replenish the aquifers below the Northern Adelaide Plains by providing an environmental contribution of 1.3 billion litres of cleansed stormwater each year.

City of Salisbury Mayor Gillian Aldridge said the Council would contribute \$3.8 million to the project.

"The City of Salisbury is very pleased that the Federal Government has shown ongoing support for our water initiatives," Mayor Aldridge said.

"The Whites and Summer Road stormwater re-use project is very exciting as it completes the harvesting link across the North and keeps us on track to achieving a sustainable future."

Senator Wong said the Salisbury project is a key election commitment and forms part of the Rudd Government's \$12.9 billion *Water for the Future* plan to secure the long-term water supply of all Australians.

Water for the Future has four key priorities: taking action on climate change, using water wisely, securing water supplies and supporting healthy rivers.