

PO Box 293
BELAIR SA 5052
Tel: (08) 8278 7853
16/9/08

Janette Radcliffe
Secretary for The Senate Rural and
Regional Affairs and Transport Committee
Dept. of the Senate
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission to the Committee
Concerning the
Emergency Water Supply for Taillem Bend
and Lower Lakes Area.
(in the event that the drought extends to late 2009)

NB: This submission elaborates on that sent on 4/9/08. In Adelaide on 10/9/08 the Committee Chairman and Senator Heffernan agreed to an extension of time for this submission.

1. There is **only one large unused, suitable water reserve** that I'm aware of, that would be **available for "critical human needs"**, in the event that the present drought continues into late 2009 or beyond, and **river levels at Taillem Bend become too low for supply** to local residents, Keith, Karoonda and to residents in the "Lower Lakes" areas.

It is the water contained by the large and deep aquifer in the Penola (South East of SA) area.

There would be at least 10 ML/day available from that source.

As you are aware, 7 ML/day has already been allocated from that source for the proposed Penola Pulp Mill (See my previous submission and Reference 1) However, I believe **the Mill is not viable** and is unlikely to proceed (see **Attachment 1**).

Clearly **the water referred to must be allocated and made readily available for "critical human needs"** if the drought continues for a long period, as referred to herein.

2. Just recently Premier Mike Rann announced (and widely publicised) the intention to install water supply pipelines from Tailem Bend to towns and residents around the “Lower Lakes” areas (See **Attachment 2** – a map showing those pipelines).
3. **I believe the drought is likely to extend into late 2009 at least (see Note 1) leading to low river levels at Tailem Bend and consider that additional emergency water supplies will need to be lined up and appropriate pipelines installed AS A MATTER OF URGENCY.**

Hence I suggest that appropriate plans be initiated ASAP to enable rapid early transfer (if necessary) of the Penola area water reserve to Tailem Bend.

Note: There is an existing water supply pipeline between Tailem Bend and Keith (approx. 150 kms in length) and so only about an additional 150 kms would be necessary to pipe water from the Penola area to the river. (See **Map: Attachment 3.**)

4. **The Following Broad Steps are Suggested to enable Early and Rapid Transfer of Emergency Water Supplies to Keith and Tailem Bend, if Required.**
 - 4.1 Drill wells and install suitable storage tanks and pumps at the various well sites selected.
 - 4.2 Plan and install a suitable pipeline from the well site areas to the existing line at Keith.
 - 4.3 Connect the various well sites to the pipeline.
 - 4.4 Install chlorination facilities and any other treatment facility where necessary.
 - 4.5 Install a main water pump at Keith and pumps along the line to Coonalpyn and Tailem Bend where necessary.
5. To expedite the pipeline construction a number of separate working groups or contractors could be allocated a relatively short length of line each.
6. To avoid long delays due to normal tendering procedures, early commencement of work contracts could be achieved by accepting contracts on a “cost plus” basis, with costs subject to close, regular audit.
7. It is assumed that all those pipelines announced recently by Premier Mike Rann, for supplying water from Tailem Bend to the “Lower Lakes” towns and residents (see Attachment 3) would have been installed and be operating by autumn 2009.
8. A suitable weir at Wellington would be imperative to maximise upstream storage capacity.

Note 1. The first major world-wide warning of the future “Global Warming” effects of increasing greenhouse gas discharges was given in 1985 (23 years ago) at a well publicised conference at Villach in Austria conducted by accredited scientists.

A "Greenhouse Conference" was also later held in Adelaide, in 1987, conducted by a member of the Australian Democrats.

There were accurate predictions of future increased extremes in weather patterns. i.e. extensive droughts followed by extensive rainy periods and floods; and the likes of the hurricanes as experienced in the US recently.

Australia is experiencing such weather patterns and following the present drought, I believe we can expect (in the future) a period of rain, storms and floods.

Hence I believe there is a high possibility of at least another year of this drought in NSW and SA.

Yours faithfully,



John ('Jack') King

PS: I am a retired chemical engineer with approx. 47 years experience in various industries and environmental matters (including oil refineries, a petro chemical plant, a papermill, a nickel refinery and was supervisor of the Moomba gas plant. Also worked with Gov. depts. on water pollution matters and legislation etc.)

Copy to: Hon Karlene Maywald MP, Minister for the River Murray and Water Security, SA.

Reference 1: The 120 page "Report for Penola Pulp Mill Authorisation Bill, May 2007".

PO Box 293
BELAIR SA 5052

Tel. (08) 8278 7853
4/7/08

Mr Mike Smith
CEO
ANZ Banking Group Ltd
PO Box 537E
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

**Re: ANZ Considering Financing the \$1.5 billion
Penola (SA) Pulp Mill**

- **No Similar Pulp Mill Appears to Have Been Viable – as claimed.**
- **The Compared Meadow Lake Pulp Mill in Saskatchewan (Canada) was claimed as “the Biggest Government-run Business Disaster in Saskatchewan History?”**
- **It was Sold to the Singapore-based APP Pulp and Paper Co. in 2006 for only \$38 million after losing over \$900 million.**
- **Has ANZ Checked the Viability of the Meadow Lake Mill (including Claims made by the Proponents) before Committing itself to Such a Large Sum?**

Dear Mr Smith,

I have been a customer of “ANZ” for many years and have coincidentally been involved in checking the viability of the proposed Penola Pulp Mill for about 1½ years on behalf of Penola area farmers, who have strongly opposed the mill.

I am a retired chemical engineer with about 47 yrs industrial and environmental experience, including 24 yrs with oil refineries, a natural gas processing plant, a petrochemical plant, a nickel refinery and **a paper mill.**

I have challenged the claims of the proponents of the Penola Pulp mill that the mill was viable. My strong doubts are based on the limited information I could find out about the mill and on the information I’ve viewed from various sources.

Please note **Attachment 2** which is an article on the Meadow Lake (Saskatchewan, Canada) Pulp Mill from the “Leader Post” newspaper of 4/5/05. Also note **Attachment 3**, which is information from the internet describing the **sale of the Meadow Lake mill for only \$38 million, following a loss of over \$900 million.**

I have studied the detailed description of the mill submitted in May 2007 by the proponents titled "Penola Pulp Pty Ltd. Report for Penola Pulp Mill Authorisation Bill" and have made 2 submissions to the SA Government's "Select Committee" hearings on the proposal. My challenges calling for evidence of any similar successful mill have never been answered.

I don't know of any independent person or authority who has visited the Canadian Meadow Lake mill and checked on its viability and the causes of its massive losses.

It seems only logical that you should use someone of suitable background to check on the Meadow Lake mill before committing your organisation to such a massive funding.

In addition to the claims made about the mill (including that it won't cause pollution of the sensitive water table in the area), the proponents claim adequate water supply from the local ground water is available i.e. without any adverse effects on water supply to local towns and farmers. That claim is questionable in my opinion.

You should be aware that the SA (including Adelaide) water supply is greatly threatened by the current extended drought and that the government is seeking emergency supplies for future use. The ground water that the pulp mill will utilise will most likely have to be reserved for future emergency town and city use if the drought continues, as expected.

I do ask that ANZ check on the viability of the proposed pulp mill and whether it can meet the claims made re water use and pollution etc. before committing your organisation to such a large sum.

Yours sincerely,



John ('Jack') King

The Aust. 21/2/08

Banking strife to hit mill finance (Tas)

Matthew Denholm

THE exposure of ANZ and other banks to the US sub-prime collapse will make it harder for projects such as the Gunns pulp mill to secure affordable finance, analysts warn.

Gunns is yet to announce finance for the controversial \$2 billion Tasmanian mill, while its banker, ANZ, yesterday said it was still deciding whether to help bankroll the project.

Banking and investment analysts said the exposure of ANZ and other banks would make them far more cautious about investing in large projects with high borrowings.

ANZ this week revealed potential losses of \$US200 million (\$219 million) from a debt with a US insurer of corporate debt.

"Particularly with the Australian banks, there is a perception that they have been pretty heavily involved in these types of credit-default swap deals," said Hugh Dougherty, senior investment consultant with Watson Wyatt.

"The banks themselves might be very wary of funding projects of that scale where there is a credit issue.

"If you're out there trying to get a big chunk of capital, if the gearing is high, (banks) are looking not just twice but three or four times at some situations."

Matthew Davison, banking analyst with Merrill Lynch, agreed banks were concerned about large corporate loans in such cases.

"They're not closing the doors; they are still trying to grow their books, but they would have a much more judicious approach in terms of which corporates they loan to," he said.

The cost of getting large loans had also increased significantly.

"For a lot of corporate borrowing in the last three months, we've seen anywhere from a 50-to 100-basis-point increase in the cost of loans. So obviously for a deal like that, the economics of it have changed."

Gunns, with a turnover of about \$700 million, has flagged borrowing the entire \$2 billion cost of the project.

However, Gunns has several factors in its favour. It is expected the manufacturer of the equipment for the mill, understood to be Austrian firm Andritz, will bear responsibility for its operation in the commissioning phase.

It is understood Gunns will forward-sell up to 100 per cent of the pulp to be produced, further reducing the risk to financiers.

Gunns declined to comment on financing, but a spokesman said the project was "moving forward". "Gunns is confident of being able to commence (construction) soon," he said.

Challenge against Gunns pulp mill gets go-ahead

Matthew Denholm

A LEGAL challenge against federal approval of the Gunns pulp mill will go ahead after the Federal Court ruled yesterday that the group launching the action did not have to provide a bond.

Judge Shane Marshall rejected an application by Gunns for an order that Lawyers for Forests provide a \$100,000 bond to cover the company's legal costs should

the group lose. Justice Marshall ordered costs against Gunns for its failed application, estimated in the tens of thousands of dollars, and set the legal challenge for a full hearing.

This is likely to take place in July or August, taking it close to the time that construction on the \$2 billion mill is expected to start.

Lawyers for Forests counsel Vanessa Bleyer said that Gunns would run a great risk by proceeding with construction before the judgment.

"That is a risk that they can take," she said.

"I think it's a risk they should not take because if Lawyers for Forests are successful, Gunns would have to undo what they had done and that could be a costly exercise."

She joined environmental groups in welcoming the broader implications of yesterday's ruling. "This decision vindicates the rights of a community group to seek review of a minister's decision without the impediment of

costly security bonds — this is an important precedent," said Greg Ogle, Wilderness Society legal adviser.

A three-day hearing will test the Lawyers for Forests' claim that then environment minister Malcolm Turnbull breached the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act when approving the mill last year.

The group claims Mr Turnbull failed in his duty to have sufficient information on which to

make a decision, and breached the act by approving construction while making the mill's operation conditional on the successful completion of a range of studies.

The most important of these is a study to show the likely dispersal of the mill's 64,000 tonnes of dioxin-containing effluent into Bass Strait.

Documents show Mr Turnbull was warned that threatened species, including whales, may suffer from the pollutants.

* SA Advertiser 31/5/08

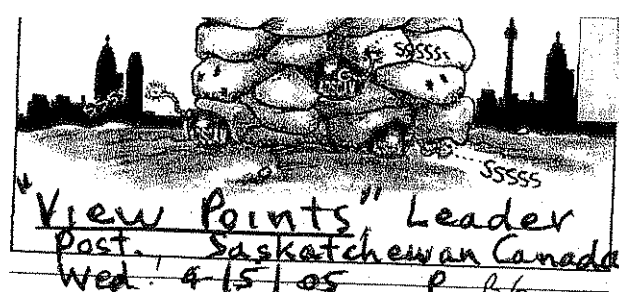
Re: ANZ Pulp mill finance
Financing Penola Pulp Mill SA.
THE ANZ Bank is still investigating financing the \$1.5 billion Penola Pulp Mill, despite pulling the plug on a similar mill in Tasmania.

The bank announced on Wednesday that it would not fund the highly politicised \$2 billion Gunns pulp mill to be built in Tasmania's Tamar Valley.

A spokeswoman yesterday said the two projects were different.

"ANZ continues to work with Protavia on a number of aspects of the Penola Pulp Mill, including financing," she said.

*



"View Points" Leader

Post, Saskatchewan Canada
Wed. 4/15/05 P. 36

SASKATCHEWAN POLITICS

Meadow Lake pulp mill a giant money pit

So, what has really been the biggest government-run business disaster in Saskatchewan history?

What has been the biggest stinker? The most ill-conceived, most costly mess that has cost taxpayers the most dollars with the least hope of return?

Not the nationalization of the potash mines in the 1970s or, for that matter, the privatization of those same potash mines a decade later.

Not the \$5-million loss in GigaText, about which the then-NDP Opposition used to cry bloody murder during the 1990s. Not the Grant Devine Progressive Conservative government's investments in the fertilizer plant at Belle Plaine, the Weyerhaeuser pulp and paper plant in Prince Albert or the upgraders in Lloydminster and Regina.

Not the NDP government's questionable investment in the 1990s in the Australian cable industry, which actually broke even. Not the mind-numbing investment by the Information Service Corp. into automated, computerized mapping technology that we wouldn't have been able to sell to anyone even if it had worked.

Not the disastrous \$35-million loss in Spudco, over which the NDP deceived us for six years. Not even the \$42-million loss-to-date on Navigata — the B.C. telecommunications company that Saskatchewan Party leader Brad Wall has recently proclaimed "the biggest government-run business disaster in Saskatchewan history."

Nope. Not any of the above. In fact, none of them are even close.

The biggest government-run business disaster in Saskatchewan history has a book value of \$78 million (although some argue that its value is really negative \$70 million) even though taxpayers are into the project for nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars.

It's an investment in which the Saskatchewan government has a 50-per-cent partnership with a private company, even though the government is responsible for 100 per cent of the company's debt and 100 per cent of the losses.

And under the absolute best-case scenario, the best thing the government can do is give away its half of the investment and write it off as a loss.

The biggest government-run business disaster in Saskatchewan history? The Meadow Lake Pulp Mill.

Yet, amazingly, you're not hearing the Opposition complain about it. In fact, when the NDP government does eventually unload this dog — likely to the Meadow Lake Tribal Council shortly before the next election — don't be surprised if Wall is the first one to slap Premier Lorne Calvert on the back for a job well done.

A cabinet order-in-council made public Monday saw a \$52-million loan from the General Revenue Fund granted to the Investment Saskatchewan Crown corporation to buy debentures for the Meadow Lake Pulp Mill Partnership.

And accompanying this latest transaction was the first thing vaguely resembling an honest admission from a Saskatchewan politician on the project in quite some time.

Industry and Resources Minister Eric Cline admitted Monday that Meadow Lake has never really been a very good investment for the province's taxpayers, that the government has now taken all the risk and that our best hope is that recent \$52-million loan might — just might — put the government in a position to dispense with its money-losing investment.

Yes, folks, on a day when Agriculture Minister Mark Wartman was telling us there would be no money for a special cash advance for spring seeding, we were throwing more good money after bad into the Meadow Lake Pulp Mill.

Yet the only thing the Opposition has to say about it is that it's "reserving judgment." Why would the Saskatchewan Party be so reluctant to say anything bad about what has been — hands down — the biggest government-run business disaster in Saskatchewan history?

Well, here's the history and the politics:

Meadow Lake started with all good intentions as a \$159-million investment by the Devine administration in the late 1980s — a 50-50 partnership between the government and Millar-Western Pulp that would provide needed jobs for Saskatchewan's northwest. In fairness, the venture has clearly done that. It's critical to the local economy... which has actually become the big part of the problem.

No payments have ever been made on that original \$159-million "participating debenture" and, at an 11.5 per-cent interest rate, it has now accrued \$492.6 million in interest owing as of Dec. 31, according to Investment Saskatchewan's 2004 annual report released last week. Add in a \$246-million "term loan", a \$16.9-million "contingency loan", a \$12-million "guaranteed advance", a \$16.2-million "cash flow loan", \$12.7 million in accrued interest plus operating losses and a few other transactions and it totals \$743.3 million.

As important as the mill is to Meadow Lake, can taxpayers really afford these losses?

Given that it inherited this mess from the Conservatives, why didn't the NDP pull the pin years ago? And given that the NDP has made the very bad decision to hang on, why hasn't the Saskatchewan Party — which opposes such government meddling in the economy — hammered the NDP on these on-going losses?

Well, evidently the rules are different when you are one seat away from power and the money-losing venture you have to criticize happens to be the biggest employer in theynch-pin seat that will quite likely determine who forms the next government.

As long as Meadow Lake is the seat that gives the NDP its majority, it will keep pouring money into the pulp mill.

And as long as the Saskatchewan Party thinks it can win the seat, it won't be criticizing the decision — even if the Meadow Lake Pulp Mill is actually the biggest government-run business disaster in Saskatchewan history.



MURRAY MANDRYK

■ Mandryk is political columnist for the Leader-Post.

Saskatchewan, Canada

6 In Quotes

"This is the type of thing we need more of, rather than this daily preoccupation with survival. He (Paul Martin) needs to give less impression of that and more impression of clear leadership."

— David Anderson, the Liberal MP, was critical of Prime Minister Paul Martin's action during the squabble over whether to attend services in Holland to honour Canadian Second World War veterans.

Viewpoints Contact
John Swan, Associate Editor
Telephone: 781-5244
Fax: 555-2586
letters@leaderpost.com

Contributions to Viewpoints may be emailed to letters@leaderpost.com

Autorship of all letters is confirmed prior to publication

enne Clarkson to carry the flag for Canada in Holland, which Canadian troops liberated from the Nazis in 1945. stung by the justifiable criticism of Prime Minister Paul Martin won from opposition leaders Stephen Layton and Gilles Duceppe that all go to honour Canada's heroes, temporary ceasefire to the petty recent days that saw Martin, Minister Pierre Pettigrew and Minister Bill Graham all cancel trips to Ottawa from Holland because of position Conservatives might try to action in their absence. region chief spokesman Bob Butt blamed all of the leaders for the job, which "doesn't go down well" to fought for free and open government friends buried overseas. leader Harper's vow to bring down government over the sponsorship triggered this mess, he isn't the only The prime minister should have ship from the start by sticking to his Holland with his senior colleagues. and Duceppe might want the out trying to time it while Canada's being honoured would have nation. On Tuesday, the politicians rved themselves a shred of dignity. in Canadians served in the Second h 45,000 killed and thousands of d. While Dieppe, Juno Beach and ere important, the Dutch camp- al. Around 237,000 Canadians liberation of Holland, with more d. The Dutch people have never acrifice for their freedom. Cana- h of leaders, it seems, had... until oke up.

Safety first

Carahan knows what she's talking it comes to workplace safety. while working as a summer an lost her left leg below the lace accident. Carahan, who ort for Safety, a national not-for- reness program, was in Regina launch North American Occup- id Health Week.

Carahan's accident wouldn't have had been better informed about workplace. And that ties in with reness week "Equip, Educate, rding to a recent Canadian Insti- ormation study, of all job-relat- ss Canada, 13 per cent involved

Health and safety should have a in Saskatchewan, which has job-safety records in Canada. id, bringing the percentage of X not enough. "One per cent is n."

Regina success

keep coming for Regina furad Al-Katib. Tuesday when Al-Katib, presi- ise Trading Inc., was named to der 40. The program was go by the Caldwell Partners, firm, to honour young Cana- a significant level of success. Recipients are selected by composed of industry and . The honour isn't restricted id corporate leaders. rs, aid workers and founders been named to the list. since launching Saskcan tib has seen the company processor and exporter of stern hemisphere. He has awards as business of the venture in 2003, the and Export Partnership of the year and Ernst & Young ing entrepreneur award. a growing Saskatchewan

Leader Post, PO Box 2020
Regina, SK, Canada, S4P 3G4

report it is "worried" that too many people are speaking English in the privacy of their own homes.

This expression of anglophobia was condemned by francophone commentators as well as anglophones after the report containing it was made public last November. But the Office remained unchastened.

Two months later, commenting on the controversy over French tests for nurses in so-called "English" hospitals, the Office's spokesperson made the sweeping and unsupported statement that "a lot of anglophones are not sensitive enough that French-speakers expect to be cared for in French."

A more recent expression of anglophobia in Quebec was the publication of an article arguing in favour of maintaining the under-representation of anglophones in the National Assembly.

This was not an anonymous screed that surfaced far from the mainstream in a pamphlet or on the Web site of some extreme nationalist group. If it were, it wouldn't be worthy of note.

Rather, it was thoughtfully written and appeared on the ideas page of the daily Le Devoir, and was signed by five eminent members of the political class. They are Joseph Facal, a former Parti Quebecois cabinet minister; Jean-Claude Rivest, a current senator and former adviser to Liberal Premier Robert Bourassa; a constitutional expert, and two political scientists.

The article was critical of the Charest government's proposal to change the voting system by introducing an element of proportional representation. This would bring the distribution of seats in the Assembly more into line with the distribution of votes among the parties.

One of its effects would be to convert non-francophone votes now wasted on huge Liberal majorities in a small number of Montreal ridings into additional seats for the QLP.

The article contained some valid criticism of the proposal. One was that the present riding system has produced nothing but majority governments in Quebec, and usually stable ones. Another was that the proposal would keep the small left-wing parties out of the Assembly.

But one of its central arguments was that the proposal "would reduce the power of the francophone majority in a context in which Quebec is neither sovereign nor recognized as a distinct society within a Canada where it faces a centralizing federal power with over-abundant financial resources."

And, "by increasing the value of an anglophone clientele historically loyal to the QLP but concentrated in a small number of ridings, (the proposal) risks making the QLP (the permanent government party in Quebec, as are the federal Liberals, given the fragmentation of the opposition in Ottawa, in an unhealthy way for democratic values."

It's surprising to see such knowledgeable people so exaggerate the potential political weight of such a small minority; at the 2001 census, only 10.5 per cent of Quebecers reported speaking English as their main language at home, and that proportion is declining.

What's almost as surprising is to see such respected people publicly expressing such concern for democratic values while rejecting the principle of one voter, one vote. Try to imagine the reaction if, say, five Americans of corresponding stature argued in favour of rigging their country's voting system to keep the fast-growing Hispanic minority from gaining too much influence.

But we can thank the article's authors for one thing. They have once again exposed as a lie the "Quebec nation" theory that everybody who lives here, regardless of language, forms one big, happy nation, entitled to equal civil rights.

On a related subject, namely the current rush to rehabilitate Jacques Parizeau after Benoit Corbeil, a former federal Liberal official, supposedly confirmed that Parizeau was right on referendum night about "money and ethnic votes," let's not overlook an inconvenient fact.

By his own admission, to journalist Francine Pelletier for her excellent documentary Public Enemy Number One, Parizeau wasn't referring to instant federalist voters created by Liberal-appointed citizenship judges. Rather, as he told her, he meant to refer to "anglophone votes," not ethnic ones.

■ Macpherson writes for the Montreal Gazette.

QUOTABLE

“ Only 10.5 per cent of Quebecers reported speaking English as their main language at home. ”

- Two students shot at Delaware State University
- Note says missing teen was "sold" to pimp
- Canadians having a 'parity party,' says poll

• More Latest News

Pulp mill sold to controversial company

James Wood, Saskatchewan News Network; CanWest News Service

16/12/06

Published: Saturday, December 16, 2006

One of the world's largest -- and most controversial -- pulp and paper companies has bought the Meadow Lake Pulp Mill, the biggest money-losing government investment in Saskatchewan history, it was revealed Friday.

Sold for \$38 million to Asia Pulp and Paper Co. (APP)

Industry giant Asia Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd. (APP) will pay \$38 million for the fixed assets of the mill, which is jointly owned by the provincial government's Investment Saskatchewan arm and Alberta forestry company Millar Western, said the mill's lawyer Conrad Hadubiak.

The mill, which employs about 150 people, has been under bankruptcy protection since February and the deal must still be approved by the Court of Queen's Bench in a hearing slated for next week.

Email to a friend Printer friendly

Font:

- *
- *
- *
- *

Must operate 5 more yrs. Under the deal, expected to close in late January, APP has pledged to operate the mill for five years, with penalties if they shut it down before that time.

APP subsidize of Indonesian "I think this is good news for the town of Meadow Lake. We have a purchaser for the mill who is intending to continue to operate the mill and generate the economic activity and preserve the jobs that have been there over the last 12 years," Hadubiak said.

SIN Mas "The deal is being done through a Canadian numbered company that is a subsidiary of Indonesia-based Sinar Mas, which owns Asia Pulp and Paper, Hadubiak said.

APP head - ow -akes biggest customer. Singapore-based APP, which is already the biggest customer for the pulp produced in Meadow Lake, is estimated to be the sixth-largest paper and paperboard company in the world.

However, it has a checkered history.

Pulp mill sold to controversial company

APP
"Checkered History"

Attach. 1 Cont'd
Attach. 3 Cont'd

The company went through major financial difficulties in 2001, including a massive default on bank loans and bonds. It has also been a focus for environmental groups, which say the company has been involved in illegal logging of natural forests in China and targeting highly ecologically sensitive forests for conversion into plantations in Sumatra.

"I would see it as being a bad sign that they are coming into Saskatchewan," said Richard Brooks, head of the forest campaign at Greenpeace Canada.

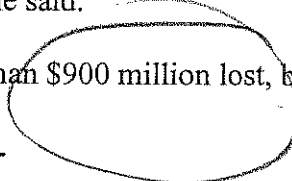
"This isn't an issue where they're just slightly bad on the environment. They're one of the worst offenders when it comes to protecting the environment, particularly protecting natural forests and forests that have very high conservation values. They rank very, very low on our list of companies operating in places like Asia."

Eric Cline, the minister responsible for Investment Saskatchewan, said he couldn't comment on the company's practices elsewhere in the world.

"But they're not going to have a bad environmental record in Saskatchewan, I can assure you of that. They, like any mining company or forestry company or other company in Saskatchewan, are going to comply with the laws and regulations of the government of Saskatchewan and we have good environmental laws and regulations. And they know that," he said.

Cline said he would have liked to have recouped the more than \$900 million lost, but it wasn't possible.

>\$900 mill lost"
by Meadow Lake Mill.



\$900 million Lost

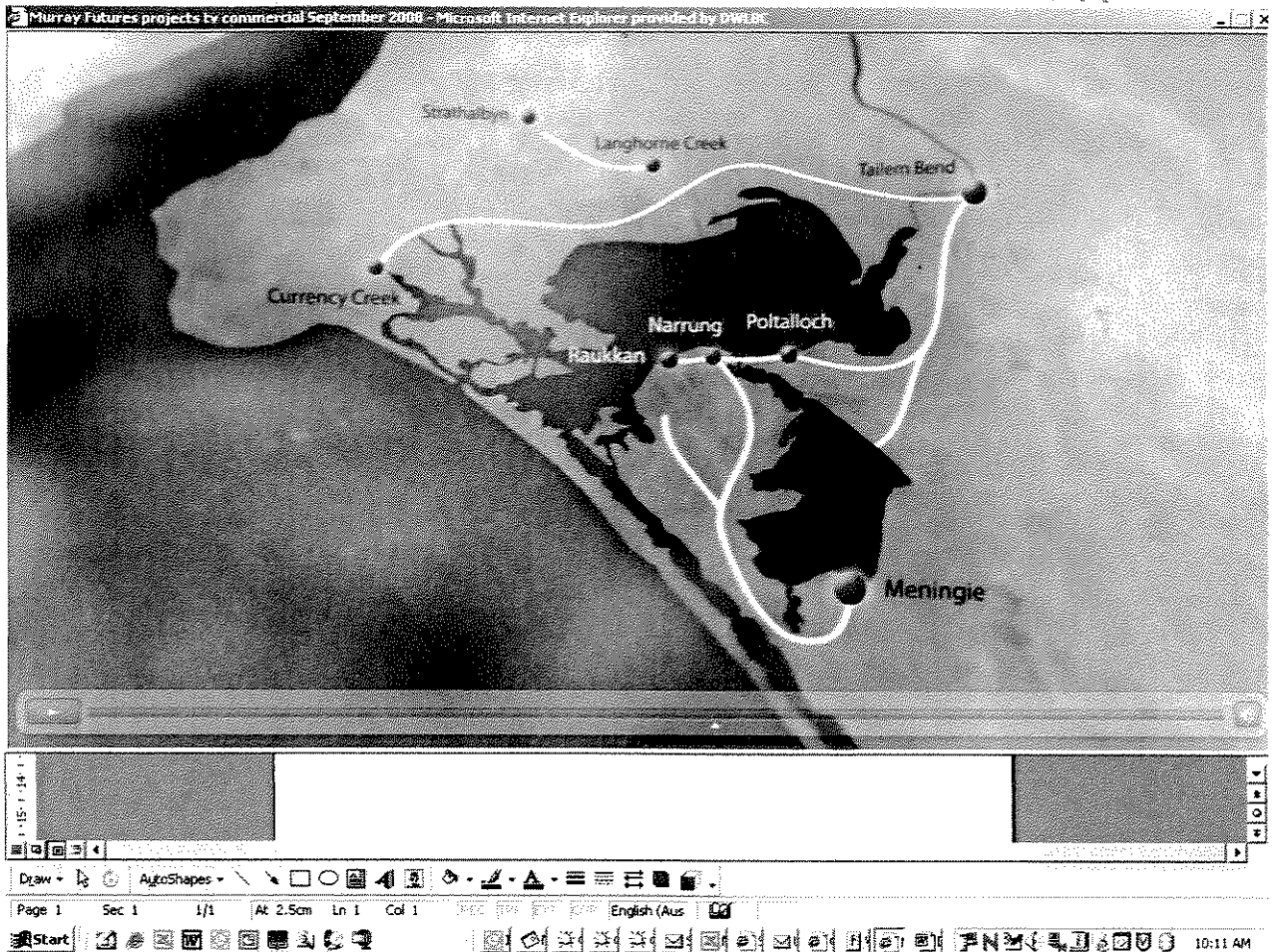
© The Leader-Post (Regina) 2006

Ads by Google

The Ugly Truth about Oil
We're Tied to Athabasca's Oil Sands
for Decades To Come: New Report.
EnergyAndCapital.com/Athabasca_Rpt

Pulp and Paper
Superior efficiency for all steps
of pulp screening process
www.johnsonscreens.com

Uranium Exploration Co.
Uranium Exploration In Saskatchewan
Airborne Survey Completed 2006
www.eagleplains.com



Our Four-Way Strategy

Living in the driest state in the driest inhabited continent, South Australians have long been responsible water users. Now, with climate change and the harshest drought on record, the South Australian Government has implemented a four-way strategy to secure water for our future.

Through desalination, recycling wastewater and capturing stormwater; as well as increasing our storage capacity, protecting our water catchments and managing our water use, we're securing water for our future.

We've successfully lobbied the Federal Government for an independent authority to better manage the Murray-Darling Basin.

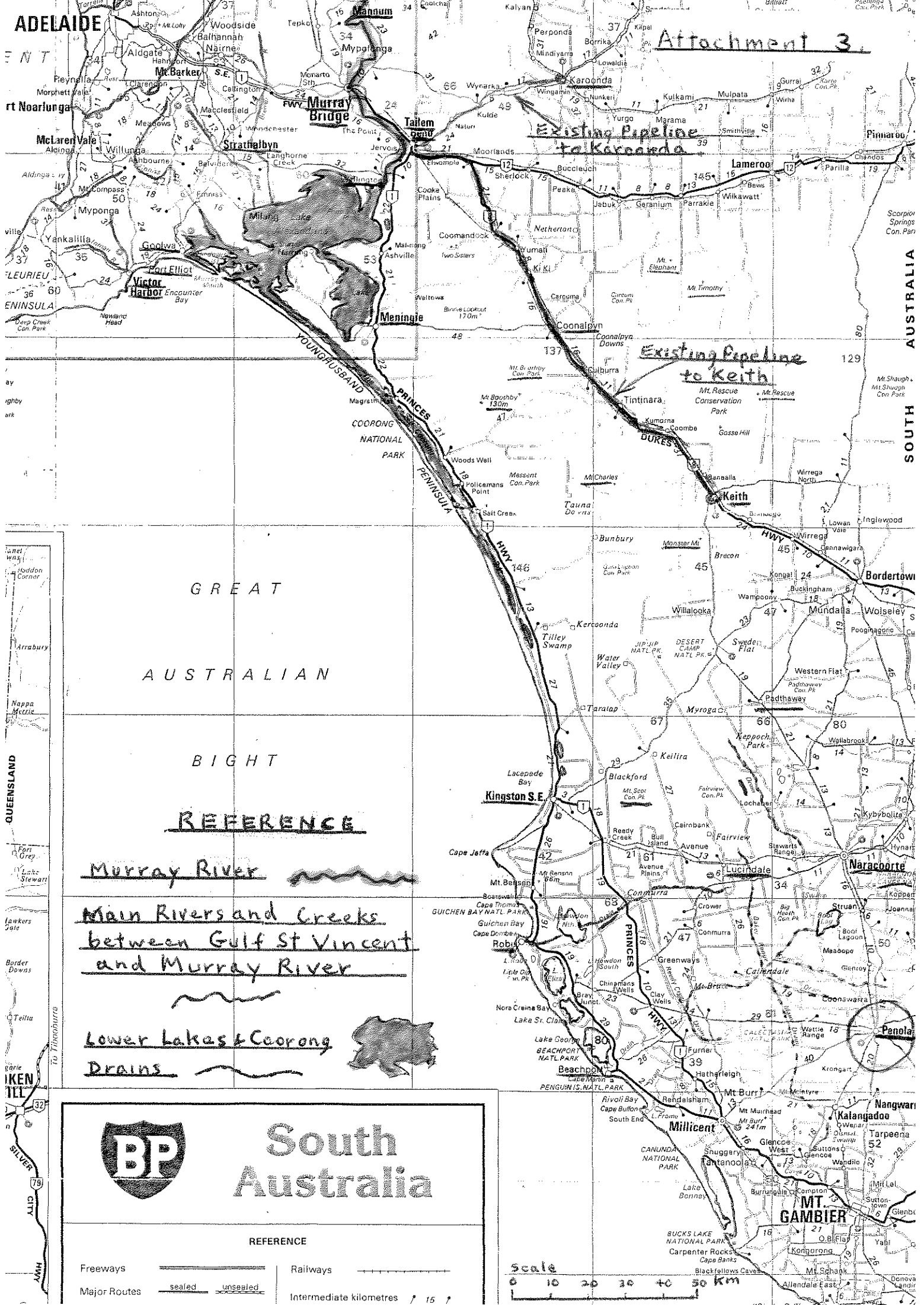
We have also secured funding for the *Murray Futures* program to help River Murray communities and improve the health of the river environment.

Work will start this year on a new pipeline network to guarantee water for the Lower Lakes communities.

Environmental work will help the Lakes and the Coorong.

And to relieve the pressure on the Murray, while still guaranteeing Adelaide's water supply, we're building a desalination plant at Port Stanvac.

Through this site you will find information on the many projects being implemented under our four-way strategy. You will also find links to a range of other sites for more detailed information.



ADELAIDE

Port Noarlunga

FLORIOURIEU
ENINSULA

QUEENSLAND

SILVER CITY

AUSTRALIA
SOUTH

GREAT
AUSTRALIAN
BIGHT

REFERENCE

Murray River

Main Rivers and Creeks
between Gulf St Vincent
and Murray River

Lower Lakes & Coorong
Drains



South
Australia

REFERENCE

Freeways

sealed unsealed

Railways

Intermediate kilometres

Scale



Existing Pipeline
to Karoonda

Existing Pipeline
to Keith

Kingston S.E.

MT.
GAMBIER