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3rd January 2006

Hon. Kevin Foley MP
Deputy Premier; Treasurer
GPO Box 2264,
Adelaide, SA 5001

cc: Opposition Leader, Cabinet Members.

Dear Mr Foley,

Re: Funding for Restoration of Rapid Bay Jetty

The Rapid Bay Jetty is a State marine icon. It has historic significance, with many economic, social and environmental benefits. It is the largest accessible deep water fishing platform in South Australia. It provides a unique marine environment, and is recognised overseas, interstate and within the State as the home of our State's marine emblem, the protected Leafy Sea Dragon.

Due to lack of maintenance, the Rapid Bay Jetty is now in a state of disrepair. The majority of the jetty has been closed since 24th December 2004.

At a meeting with Hon. Patrick Conlon on the 20th December 2005, it was indicated to stakeholders that the cost of repair would be in the range of \$3.9M to \$8M, and would require approval from Cabinet.

A copy of the document "Rapid Bay Jetty Closure – Triple Bottom Line impact to the Fleurieu Region" is enclosed for your perusal.

Appendix 2 of the report (page 12) contains the "Report on the fishes under Rapid Bay Jetty", by Dr Scoresby Shepherd, Senior Research Fellow, SARDI. The report details how the fish fauna under Rapid Bay Jetty is very rich in terms of numbers and is a comparative hotspot for the region in terms of species diversity, due to the habitat and shade that the jetty provides.

The Leafy Sea Dragons under the Rapid Bay Jetty featured in the documentary "The Vanishing Dragon", aired on Channel 9 on the 14th December 2005. This documentary highlights the value and importance of the Rapid Bay Jetty.

The Friends of Rapid Bay Jetty, and over 5000 petitioners ask that when this issue arises, that you and your Cabinet colleagues give full consideration to the economic, social and environmental significance of Rapid Bay Jetty, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Yours sincerely,

Glenice Galbraith
(Spokesperson, Friends of Rapid Bay Jetty)