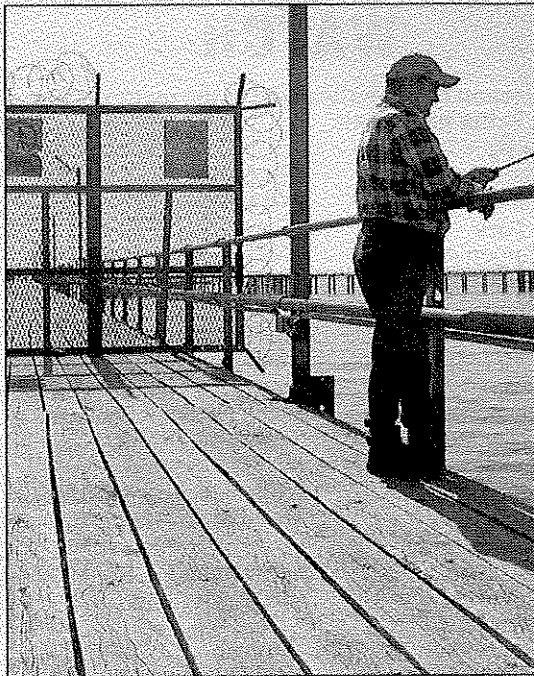


Jetty plans 'confusing'



DISREPAIR: The closed-off jetty at Rapid Bay

XANTHE KLEINIG

FRIENDS of Rapid Bay Jetty say they are confused about plans to rebuild the jetty after conflicting commitments to fund its restoration.

Group spokeswoman Glencie Galbraith said the group was sceptical about an announcement from Regional Development Minister Karlene Maywald and National candidate for Finnis, Kym McHugh, assuring the jetty's future.

"There still is no firm commitment from Labor, there has not been one word from them," she said. "We don't know whether we're being played or not." The Nationals have announced that a Labor

Government would fund the jetty's restoration.

Mrs Maywald said work would be funded by contributions from a number of government departments but did not say how much would be set aside for the jetty, which has been closed since December, 2004.

Ms Galbraith said the group wanted the jetty, one of the SA's best fishing spots and a home for leafy sea-dragons, fixed completely.

"We'd like the whole restoration with the new jetty built over the top of the old jetty. We want it replaced section by section . . . exactly like it is," she said. The department's Environmental Im-

pact Assessment of the jetty came up with a "preferred" design of a concrete deck.

Ms Galbraith said the group had met this week with two officials from the Transport Department.

She said the meeting was told: "It definitely won't be the whole restoration, they have to warrant that sort of money being spent down in this area when other jetties and places need it as well".

A spokesman for Infrastructure Minister Patrick Conlon said it was a Labor policy to fund its rebuilding.

He said Mrs Maywald had made the announcement on behalf of the Government.

The Advertiser WATCH

THE PROBLEM

Rapid Bay jetty closed for fishing and diving for more than a year.

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE

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THE RESPONSE

A department spokeswoman told *The Advertiser* there would be no action while the department was in "caretaker mode" until after the state election.

WEEKS ON WATCH

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