



The Peak body for five landholder associations and 1600 irrigators in the Murray Valley

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## Media Release

### **Southern Riverina Irrigators' has expressed its concern about the South Australian Governments commitment to underpin the SA irrigators' water use.**

"The action of the SA Government entering the temporary water market to assist permanent plantings in their state will be detrimental to irrigators in NSW and Victoria," SRI Chairman Ted Hatty said.

"The NSW and Victorian irrigators' will be forced to compete in a distorted water market without the benefit of government backing.

"The temporary water market is an important tool for farmers to purchase water as a drought survival mechanism.

"SA needs to collaborate with the other states and the Federal Government so that drought assistance strategies do not disadvantage other irrigators facing the same dire circumstances."

Mr Hatty said both State and Federal Governments needed to provide additional assistance for all irrigators in EC declared areas.

"The \$20,000 Irrigators Grant should be more flexible and re launched a second year for irrigators still suffering the ongoing drought," Mr Hatty concluded.

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**The End.**