



MEDIA RELEASE

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Community to discuss government review of the Lake Eyre basin Agreement

A review of the historic Lake Eyre Basin Agreement will be among the important issues discussed at the seventh meeting of the Lake Eyre Basin Community Advisory Committee (CAC) being held in Innamincka on Wednesday June 22.

The Agreement was signed by the Australian, Queensland, and South Australian Governments in 2000, and by the Northern Territory Government in 2004.

“One of the most important achievements of the Lake Eyre Basin Agreement has been that it has brought us all together to talk, fostering development of open and honest relationships between all the stakeholders with an interest in the Basin,” said Mr Angus Emmott, Chair of the Committee.

“Maintaining this trust is essential if governments, communities and scientists are to keep collaborating and working hard to look after the natural resources of the Basin in the long term”

“The rivers and catchments of the Basin are in good shape compared to many others in Australia, and keeping them this way will require us to sustain this supportive and collaborative approach,” said Mr Emmott.

Holding its seventh meeting at Innamincka will provide the Committee with a chance to share first hand knowledge of achievements and challenges in the Basin through field visits in the region. Members will visit the site operations of a Hot Dry Rock Geothermal Power Plant near Innamincka, and will spend time at Innamincka Station discussing cattle operations in the lower Cooper’s Creek catchment.

Another important issue to be discussed at the meeting will be the 2006 Lake Eyre Basin Conference.

“Relationships and success stories have been identified as important themes for next year’s conference, and the Conference will provide an opportunity to explore our knowledge of the Basin and build our appreciation of its social, cultural and economic diversity” said Mr Emmott.

Held every two years, the Lake Eyre Basin conference is attended by a wide range of people, including remote land managers, community representatives, Indigenous people, government representatives, industry representatives, scientists and researchers.

Other matters to be discussed at the Innamincka meeting include water resources planning in the different jurisdictions of the Basin, and mapping of wetlands in the Channel country by the South Australian Government.

“Public observers are welcome at our meetings and we value the opportunity to get a local perspective on issues and explore how these fit into the bigger picture of basin-wide resource management” said Mr Emmott.

Please see attached information explaining the historic Lake Eyre basin agreement and the role of the CAC.

When: Wednesday June 22

Where: Innamincka Hotel

For more information:

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