



S.A.M.I.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MURRAY IRRIGATORS INCORPORATED

ABN: 42 221 151 883

Assistant Executive Officer
12A Peake Tce, Waikerie SA 5330
www.samurrayirrigators.org.au

Telephone **08 8541 2165**

Fax **08 8541 3955**

E-mail qsddpm@riverland.net.au

June 15, 2011

SAMI's commitment to irrigators remains strong

Despite years of drought and now a return to entitlement flows, the goals of the South Australian Murray Irrigators group remain unchanged.

At a recent committee meeting at Waikerie, the chair Caren Martin said the group's vision was reaffirmed.

"Our vision is for a profitable South Australian River Murray irrigation industry in which the sustainable use of our water and other natural resources supports expanding vibrant regional communities in control of their own futures," she said.

"After six years were pleased to find SAMI's goals are unchanged and strategies are being implemented.

"Our Goals are:

- To ensure that environmental policies are balanced with irrigators' interests through representation in various forums especially in government, making submissions and participating in industry associations like the National Irrigators' Council.
- For the expansion and redevelopment of profitable and sustainable irrigation based industries, by responding to the Basin Plan, ensuring continued access to water through licensing and trading and seeking innovative solutions to increase sources and supply of irrigation water.
- To support vibrant communities with the skills to adapt to changing conditions. SAMI will work and develop relationships with other organisations, councils and community groups to identify the future needs of irrigators.
- For irrigation based industries to be recognised in the wider community as using natural resources sustainably."

Ms Martin said SAMI supports change but also considers years of hard won improvements to delivery systems and on farms should be recognised in the Basin Plan.

Meanwhile, Ms Martin said South Australian Minister for the River Murray Paul Caica should be congratulated for his early announcement of the opening irrigation allocations for the 2011-12 water year.

"Irrigators can now plan with more certainty than they have seen since 2003," she said.

- **For further information contact SAMI chairperson Caren Martin on 0400 741 533.**