

Friday, 1 May 2009

### **BUCKLAND PARK TOWNSHIP EIS**

Minister for Urban Development and Planning Paul Holloway said today the environmental impact statement for the Buckland Park country township is now available for public consultation.

Mr Holloway says the proposed residential project at Buckland Park is currently being considered under the Major Development Assessment process, the most stringent and exacting available under South Australia's development laws.

The impact statement seeks to address the more than 100 issues outlined by the independent Development Assessment Commission in its guidelines to the proponents.

"The EIS produced for Walker Corp is required to address all of the sensitive issues associated with this project such as the potential impact on the Gawler River flood plain," Mr Holloway says.

"Members of the public, government agencies, community groups and local councils are invited to consider the EIS and lodge submissions that must be considered by the proponents of the project."

The EIS seeks to address issues such as:

- Potential flooding issues
- Infrastructure issues (water, sewerage, stormwater, public transport)
- Water use issues (supply, impacts on groundwater, water reuse and harvesting)
- Possible construction and ongoing impacts on the local environment, including waterways
- Impacts on and from adjacent industries, and
- Demands on community services

The six-week public consultation period runs until 15 June 2009 with submissions to be lodged by 5pm on that day with Department of Planning and Local Government. A public meeting organised by the Department is to be held 13 May 2009 at 7pm at the Virginia Horticulture Centre.

Covering an area of about 1,340 hectares, the proposed township sited four kilometres west of Virginia comprises a district centre, four neighbourhood centres and local centres that include commercial facilities, a medical centre, schools, community and recreation facilities.

Following the consultation period, Walker Corp is required to prepare a written response document that addresses matters raised in the public submissions lodged with the Department.

The EIS and more detail about the major development assessment process can be found online at: [www.dplg.sa.gov.au/go/major-developments](http://www.dplg.sa.gov.au/go/major-developments)