



4 October 2018

Ms Rebekha Sharkie, MP
Member for Mayo
South Australia

Dear Ms Sharkie,

Dredging of the Murray Mouth and federal *Water Act 2007*

The *Australian Coastal Society Ltd* (ACS) is a national 'not for profit' organisation dedicated to healthy coastal ecosystems, vibrant coastal communities and sustainable use of coastal resources. As Vice-President of ACS, I also chair the South Australian Branch of ACS.

As the Murray Mouth is in your electorate of Mayo, I would like to bring two issues to your attention;

- 1) There is a current failure in the management of the Murray Darling Basin to achieve one of the objects of the *Water Act 2007*, namely '*Part 2AA - Water for the Environment Special Account, 86AA2(c) ensuring the mouth of the River Murray is open without the need for dredging in at least 95% of years, with flows every year through the Murray Mouth Barrages*' (please see my attached submission to the Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission for details).
- 2) The Murray Mouth dredging program clearly cannot operate at its current level in perpetuity. This raises important cost issues for South Australia. What are the projected costs for South Australia's contribution to the dredging program in the future? Do these costs have an end date?

Regards

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'N. Harvey', is written below the word 'Regards'.

Professor Nick Harvey
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