

Development Brief

July 2005

**YORKE
REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
BOARD**

Development Board - Getting Results

**Warwick Welsh
Chief Executive Officer
Yorke Regional Development Board**

The Yorke Regional Development Board, which covers the local Government areas of Yorke Peninsula, Barunga West, Mallala and Wakefield, has grown from humble beginnings over 10 years ago to be a significant entity with 4 offices and 7 staff.

The string of successes continues to flow with over \$1.5 billion in projects currently being worked on within the region.

Apart from this, the Board also submits reports to Government on issues ranging from infrastructure to input into Government programs. The YRDB also manages and implements the Regional SA Works program on behalf of the South Australian Government and holds business workshops, forums and events throughout the region.

Currently we have specialists employed in business advice, food, economic development and project management, and I can confidently say that the future is looking very positive for our region.

Local Food Showcase at Balaklava

**Bridget Sara
Food Development Officer**

On Sunday 6th March, at the inaugural Adelaide Plains Cup race meeting at Balaklava, a marquee hosting local food producers provided an opportunity for sales to the general public and networking opportunities amongst producers.

What started out as a cloudy day turned into a beautiful summer's day with the general public attracted to the well presented displays from all the producers. Situated in front of the general public entrance, a continual flow of people tried and purchased products.

All producers were provided with "Taste! South Australia" aprons to give a unified front and each producer had a small poster identifying their business name. The general consensus from the event was that it was a success and all

producers would like to be kept up-to-date with similar events being carried out. Many expressed interest in having a similar style presence at the Yorke Peninsula Field Days.



A feedback form was sent out to all participants, with seven of the eight responding. Many producers commented that what they were able to get out of the event was to swap ideas and network with other producers, meet new retailers and distributors and receive great consumer feedback.

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Wattle Point wind farm up and running

Better Business Series

**David Cowell
Business Adviser**

The YRDB provides free confidential services on business planning, grant assistance, export advice and general business assessment. Business is an ever-changing field, and the best way to get ahead and stay ahead is to continually update your skills. To facilitate this, the YRDB conducts regular training workshops and forums on various business skills.



Recent forums of note have been in the fields of cash flow management and accurate costing. Each event has been focused on encouraging the adoption of best-practices in the management of a business.

A commerce dinner was also held with former AFL CEO Wayne Jackson to give local business people the opportunity to come together and share experiences.

The better business workshops have proved highly popular and successful. The Board plans to conduct further training throughout the year with a particular emphasis on home-based businesses.

Training is conducted in conjunction with the Department of Trade and Economic Development, who run regular courses in the city. These courses are accessible to all and are the best way to fast-track skills enhancement for better business practices.



For more information on the Better Business Series, log on to the website at:

www.southaustralia.biz/Events_Calendar/syob_intro.htm

**Peter Stockings
Economic Development Officer**

After nine months of construction work, the Wattle Point wind farm is now running at full capacity. Fifty-five wind turbines are producing power into their ElectraNet system which is then sent into the national grid, and could end up in NSW, Queensland, Victoria or back here in South Australia.

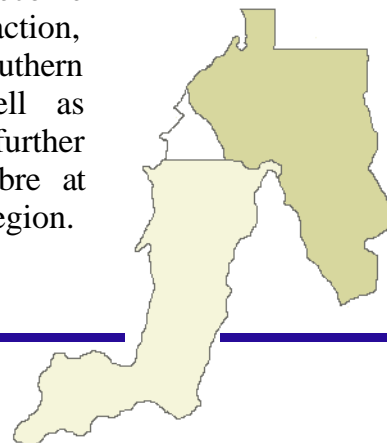


The wind farm has a capacity of 90 MW and saves 360,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year. An enormous amount of work was generated during the construction phase, with six permanent staff remaining to run the operations of the wind farm.

The land around the turbines remains completely productive. A crop will be sown on the land surrounding each turbine to within two metres of the support structure this season. In fact, the productivity of the land being utilised has significantly increased with the addition of royalties to land holders.



The turbines have also become somewhat of a tourist attraction, changing the face of the Southern Yorke Peninsula, as well as pioneering the way for further developments of this calibre at other sites throughout the region.





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Poultry and Pork Boom continues in the Adelaide Plains

Simon Millcock
Economic Development Officer

There has been over \$50 million dollars invested into the pork and poultry industries over the past two years in the Adelaide Plains and this is expected to continue at a similar rate over the next seven years. During 2005 and through to mid 2006 there is development approval within the Adelaide Plains for one hundred new fifty thousand bird poultry sheds. There are also a number of piggeries expanding their operations.

It is anticipated that there will be over two thousand direct employment outcomes for SA in the next ten years with the addition of new broiler farms, more breeder farms, new egg farms, new hatchery, new feed mill, new piggeries, and expansion of processing plants at Port Wakefield, Murray Bridge, Two Wells, Burton and Wingfield. New compost facilities and expansion of the transport industry, shed building and technology are some of the other spin offs.

A key objective in facilitating this growth will be through future planning in infrastructure to support the huge growth that these industries have, and will continue to experience into the future. One particular requirement being new water mains to supply Balaklava, Bowmans and Port Wakefield areas.



Another critical support for further growth in the industry is the provision of a significant workforce in proximity to these operations with skills and training in the industry.



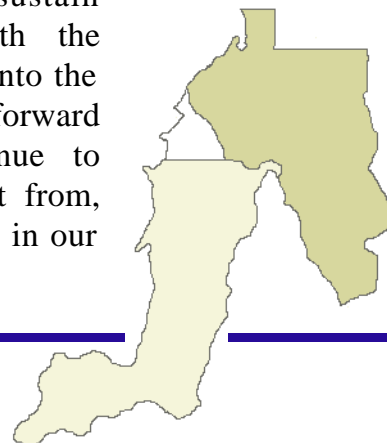
Photo courtesy of Luke Spangenberg
'The Plains Producer'

The YRDB has supported housing and industrial land feasibility studies which have provided the impetus for new residential developments to help overcome the ability for these industries to expand. Support has also been provided with skilled employees into the region including the skilled migration project.

“It is expected that there will be over two thousand direct employment outcomes for SA in the next ten years...”

The YRDB through a Yorke Regions at Work Network also manages the State funded Regional SA Works program which has seen the development of a \$60,000 cross regional pre employment program for the intensive livestock industry.

Infrastructure planning and the availability of a suitable workforce are the two main attributes that will sustain industry growth in both the poultry and pork sectors into the future. With intelligent forward planning we can continue to capitalise on, and benefit from, these main growth drivers in our region.





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Adelaide Plains Marketing

The YRDB, through Economic Development Officer Simon Millcock, has provided significant support to the \$70,000 Adelaide Plains Marketing Project. This project has seen the development of an Adelaide Plains Marketing Plan, Brochure, DVD and website:

www.adelaideplainsmarketing.com.au

The newly formed Adelaide Plains Marketing Incorporated group will be the drivers behind the actions to further stimulate the economy of the Adelaide Plains Region by attracting awareness, creating interest, and encouraging investment & expenditure.

This new sub region within the YRDB is now being recognised as a clear geographical location and has forged strong links with the Virginia Horticulture Centre and corporate partners to further progress the opportunity, affordability, proximity and diversity of the Adelaide Plains. For further information please feel free to contact Simon Millcock on 0439852577.

Contact Us:

Yorke Regional Development Board

51 Robert Street, Maitland

08 8832 2600 (p) 08 8832 2599 (f)

www.yorkeregion.com.au

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Yorke Region Population Prosperity Forum

James Stevens
Project Officer

On 22nd August, the YRDB will be conducting a full day forum on prosperity through population. The forum will be held at the Balaklava Town Hall and be followed by a Commerce Dinner in the evening.

“The forum aims to explore the goals and objectives of our region in attracting and retaining a high quality workforce to increase productivity in the region, as well as contributing to our community and overall quality of life.”

The forum will address trends in our current demographics and provide examples of tangible solutions and opportunities. This forum is a must for policy makers, members of the local community and local business, and anyone with an interest in the future of our region.

Outcomes for the day:

- To better understand the implications of demographic and social change in the region
- Analyse the challenges and opportunities in regional sustainability and development
- Generate new ideas and possibilities to take forward in developing a better region

Attendance will cost \$35 for the forum, including morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, or \$60 to include the Commerce Dinner in the evening. All enquiries and bookings can be made through the YRDB.

