

**12 January 2024**

Port Pirie Regional Council  
115 Ellen Street  
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Port Pirie SA 5540  
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**RE., A letter of support**

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to acknowledge and support Port Pirie Regional Council and its bid to secure a financial contribution from the Federal Government to replace the existing derelict Port Pirie Fisherman's jetty with a much-improved facility.

The Port Pirie Fisherman's jetty was constructed in 1926 for both commercial and recreational use. Today, it is aged, structurally unsafe and unsightly. It is in desperate need of renewal, is load limited to vessels under 6m, and needs to be replaced with a modern, safe floating pontoon marina structure.

The facility is closed for recreational use to the public and only a small number of moorings are being utilised, and the jetty requires extensive repairs and maintenance. There is, however, demand for larger boats and additional moorings.

Council is keen to build back better with a project in line with the objectives of the SA Boating Facility Strategic Plan which includes activating boating destinations, connecting boating routes and improving amenity, accessibility and safety. This infrastructure project will complement the existing Solomontown boat ramp and precinct, that was substantially upgraded a few years ago.

The Port Pirie Fisherman's jetty upgrade project will create jobs, a waterfront destination with benefits in tourism - including river eco-tourism, the marine cruising sector, fishing charters, and the hospitality industry with increased visitation.

It is understood that Council estimates the project cost as \$5.4M with the Council contributing \$2.7M.

Council's Port Pirie Fisherman's jetty project will provide in Stage 1, 5 x 6m berths, 17 x 9m berths, 10 x 12m berths, 1 x 24m berth totalling 33 – eventually with the completion of Stage 3 - 71 moorings.

This activation will encourage water-based activities and provide a much-needed modern marina supporting safe, convenient and accessible facilities for people of all ages and abilities.

The Boating Industry Association Ltd (BIA) is the peak industry body in Australia that represents the interests of boating which includes designers, manufacturers, importers, brokers, insurers, retailers, charters, yacht and boat clubs, marinas, events, surveyors and trades from boat builders to riggers, and more. BIA is an advocate for boaters and the boating lifestyle and supports safe, responsible, and enjoyable boating. BIA has members in all States and Territories.

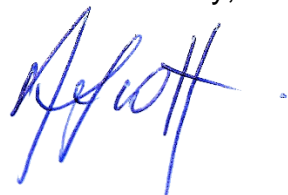
The boating economy generates significant benefits. The BIA last year reported industry national turnover of \$9.64 billion, directly employed more than 25,000 people with more than 7000 contractors. Seventy-five per cent are in small family businesses, employing local workers and supporting local communities.

In Australia, more than 85 per cent of the population live within 50km of the coast, so it is little wonder that almost 1 in 5 households can have a boat or watercraft and that approximately 5 million go boating each year. People of all ages, gender and ability participate in boating across paddle, sail and power for leisure and sport.

Boating is a significant contributor to the economy spanning metropolitan, rural and regional Australia.

In conclusion, the BIA strongly supports Port Pirie Regional Council and its bid to secure a financial contribution from the Federal Government for this worthy project which will deliver social, economic and environmental benefits to South Australia.

Yours sincerely,



**Andrew Scott**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Boating Industry Association Ltd