



Editorial comment

Port Lincoln Times

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Progress

The concern by Greens MP Mark Parnell about a small exploration company being given access to water in the Tod Reservoir is, unfortunately, typical of "progress" in South Australia.

For those who are unaware, the Greens MP was asked if he thought it would be okay if Lincoln Minerals was given access to water in the reservoir so it could operate its proposed mine in the Koppio Hills.

The MP of course said it wouldn't be okay and that the water in the reservoir should be used by the public.

Millions of dollars would have to be spent to get the water up to standard for the public to use and at last check, the authorities didn't have any concrete plans to do so.

Whether the proposed mine is a good thing isn't at the heart of this argument, what is, is the instant and constant negativity to development in South Australia.

The water in this case isn't being used and, at this stage, it doesn't seem to be a big part of any plans to supplement our water supply.

And, Lower Eyre has a lot of rainfall to fill the reservoir if some of it is being used - water has been regularly let out of the reservoir to maintain a safe level.

If Lincoln Minerals was granted approval to use the water in the reservoir and the government had a change of heart to make it available for the public, it could take the company's rights away. Surely that could be a part of any agreement, or is that too simple for people who like to complicate everything?

Again, whether the mine would be a good thing or not isn't the point of this, it just seems there is always a reason to stop something from going ahead.

South Australia is an economic basket case. We don't have any money and we need job creation, not negativity at every turn, and like it or not some of that economic growth and job creation will involve changing the environment, or the way we look at some things.

We are missing out on a many billions of

dollars annually from nuclear storage in the middle of our outback because we found reasons to not want it, and people who want to make things happen are increasingly turning away from SA.

It is time for us to find reasons for things to go ahead, not to always find a reason to stop them.