

**Little, Tammy (DEH)**

**From:** Close, Susan (DEH)  
**Sent:** Friday, 29 February 2008 3:21 PM  
**To:** Minister Gago  
**Subject:** RE: Adelaide Coastal Waters Study Final Report

Can this please be indexed to EPA Deputy CE for a response?  
Thanks  
Susan

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**From:** Minister Gago  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 February 2008 4:23 PM  
**To:** Close, Susan (DEH)  
**Subject:** FW: Adelaide Coastal Waters Study Final Report

FYI - from the Ministers inbox

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**From:** David Fox [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 February 2008 3:36 PM  
**To:** Minister Gago  
**Subject:** Adelaide Coastal Waters Study Final Report

Dear Gail,

I was pleased to note that the Final report of the Adelaide Coastal Waters Study has been released. I am also encouraged by the government's adoption of the set of recommendations and the commitment to improve the coastal marine environment.

Having said that, I was disappointed that the release was such a low profile affair. I only learnt (third-hand) of your decision to release the report last Friday afternoon with less than an hour's notice. I understand our Client (the SA EPA) was in a similar situation. The ACWS Steering committee and I had always envisaged that there would be a formal hand-over of the report and CSIRO had prepared a media release some time ago in anticipation of a joint statement.

Clearly, I was unprepared when reporters called me seeking comment on your media release and the government's response to the ACWS recommendations since I hadn't seen either at that time. I recognize the ACWS report contains some stretching targets, but my view is that this was essentially a 'good news story' and provided South Australia with an opportunity to demonstrate its environmental credentials and lead on the front foot. Instead, I get a sense that the government will be judged as being seen to be on the back foot in relation to its handling of the ACWS.

Yours sincerely,  
David Fox

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