



Renmark Paringa Council

Media Statement

DATE: 09 November 2022

Renmark Paringa Council – Thieves Undermining Flood Preparations

Renmark Paringa Council is collaborating with SA Police to investigate a number of recent thefts from council sites that are dedicated to preparing our community for the upcoming River Murray flood event.

On Tuesday night (1 November), thieves stole safety equipment from the Renmark Waste Water Treatment Plant which is required to carry out maintenance of the Community Waste Management System for the township of Renmark.

On Sunday night (6 November), thieves stole three batteries, four fuel jerry cans and approximately 60 litres of fuel from the tank of a vehicle. The equipment and fuel were stolen from earthmoving equipment belonging to Council's contractors that was being used to remediate Renmark's Hospital levee bank.

On Monday night (7 November), thieves stole a battery and fuel from an industrial-sized pump, which had been deployed to prevent potential stormwater flooding events in the Renmark township.

Renmark Paringa Council Chief Executive Officer Tony Siviour described the acts as "infuriating and disappointing". "While Renmark Paringa Council, our exceptional contractors and our broader community are all collaborating to protect and prepare for the impending flood event, we have a small minority that are actively working against us and committing theft for their own personal gain," Mr Siviour said. "Not only does it cause damage to equipment, but it also means there is significant downtime for machinery as replacement batteries are sourced. "We thank the police for increasing the patrols of these sites. Council is also increasing security and we would ask the community to be vigilant about reporting any suspicious activity in the vicinity of levee bank equipment or stormwater pumps."

Community members with any information that may assist police investigations are asked to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

To stay informed on Council's response to the rising River Murray levels, please visit our website, titled '[River Murray Flood Advice](#)' which contains all Council updates and links to relevant State and Federal Government information sources.

All media enquiries can be directed to: Tony Siviour, Chief Executive Officer on 8580 3000 or email council@renmarkparinga.sa.gov.au

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