

SA builder for new ferries

A SOUTH Australian engineering company was given the green light to construct two steel River Murray ferry hulls earlier this month.

The State Government's Transport and Infrastructure minister Stephen Mullighan said Murray Bridge's Bowhill Engineering would build the ferries as part of a \$6.1 million project to replace two ageing timber-hulled ferries.

"Ferries play an important role in the day-to-day lives of river communities, and this investment means the ferry service will be more reliable as the steel-hulled ferries require less maintenance," he said.

After an extensive fitout at the Morgan Dockyard, the first of the new steel-hulled ferries is expected to go into service by December 2015, followed by the second in April 2016.

When the ferries join the fleet, they will rotate between various local Murray River crossings – including Cadell, Lyrup and Purnong.

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