

A FERRY GOOD DEAL



EXTRA CONTRACT: Jeremy and Jodie Hawkes' Bowhill Engineering team will build hulls for two more River Murray ferries.

Major contract for Bowhill BOWHILL Engineering has won a second state government contract to replace the hulls on two ferries operating on the River Murray by 2018.

The total investment to replace four ageing timberhulled ferries with steel-hulled ones is about \$12.8 million, with some of that going towards the construction of the hulls, or main body of the vessel.

Bowhill has already completed construction work on the first two ferries – one of which is in operation at Lyrup, near Berri. The second one is being fitted out at Morgan dockyard ahead of its launch next month.

Work on the third ferry will begin in July, with the replacement date for both the remaining ferries set for 2018.

“We were thrilled to be chosen to deliver the second part of the important regional project,” said Bowhill Engineering managing director Jeremy Hawkes. “The opportunity for our dedicated team to deliver the second part of this project is verification that we have been able to deliver.”

Bowhill Engineering specialises in heavy and complex structural steel manufacturing and employs about 25 staff.

Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan said the investment will help to improve reliability of the ferry services.