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PORT JOBS IN DANGER

SOUTH Australia could lose thousands of jobs and much of its shipping trade to other states if the deepening of Outer Harbor did not get the go-ahead in the Budget, Flinders Ports warned yesterday.

Chief executive Vincent Tremaine said the \$50 million project was crucial if SA were to remain competitive with ports in other states. A Victorian plan to deepen the Port of Melbourne meant SA was in a race to see which state would grab the economic benefits from increasing container ship traffic.

Mr Tremaine said up to 2000 jobs would be lost during a 20-year period if the project did not go ahead.