**Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*)** ***e-*flash**

**Information for Water Industry Managers and Practitioners in the Queensland Water Industry**

**(Issue #225 – 16 April 2014)**

**1.  Industry Code of Practice for Sewage Pumping Stations**

**2.  *qldwater* SWQ Conference & Taste Test – Warwick 16 May 2014**

**3.  See you at Ozwater 2014**

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**1.  Industry Code of Practice for Sewage Pumping Stations**

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The regulation of sewage spills from pumping stations has been problematic since its introduction in 2009. Continued negotiation with the Regulator has resulted in  increasingly practical standard conditions but recently the Regulator has proposed a dramatic change that would affect even those councils that do not have sewage pumping stations. The Regulators proposal is to remove the current regulatory approach and standard conditions and replace it with a voluntary Code of Practice developed by the industry in consultation with the Regulator.

The industry Expert Panel on environmental regulation along with the ***qldwater*** Technical Reference Group have reviewed and endorsed the proposal to transition to a Code of Practice and ***qldwater*** recommends the adoption of this new approach.  A Position Paper describing this proposal, along with an analysis of the potential benefits and risks for service providers has been emailed to all member primary contacts with an invitation to provide response and feedback.  ***qldwater*** members can request a copy of the Position Paper by emailing hgold@qldwater.com.au.

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**2.  *qldwater* SWQ Conference & Taste Test – Warwick 16 May 2014**

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Registrations open soon for the South West Queensland Water Conference and Orica Australia Best of the Best Water Taste Test Semi Final being hosted by Southern Downs Regional Council on Friday 16 May 2014.

The SWQ Taste Test is open to Balonne Shire Council, Bulloo Shire Council, Goondiwindi Regional Council, Maranoa Regional Council, Murweh Shire Council, Paroo Shire Council, Quilpie Shire Council, Southern Downs Regional Council, Toowoomba Regional Council and Western Downs Regional Council.

For the second year in a row, Bundaberg Regional Councils Lovers Walk Scheme was selected as the best tasting tap water at the recent SEQ regional final.   The remaining regional winners will join Bundaberg at the Queensland Grand Final to be held in Caloundra in October, with the Queensland Grand Champion competing again NSW in the “State of Origin Taste Test”.  You have to be in it to win it!

We are also calling for papers to fill remaining 30 minute slots (20 minutes presentation and 10 minutes questions).  Technical presentations from members, or organisations that can co-present relevant case studies with members are invited.   If you are interested in presenting at this event, please email Heather Gold on hgold@qldwater.com.au.  You only need to provide us with a brief outline now and the presentation provided on the day if accepted. Expressions of interest close on Thursday 24 April.

Thanks to Orica Australia, our Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test sponsor and our Principal Sponsor, Toowoomba Regional Council for supporting this conference.  There are other sponsorship opportunities still available for organisations wanting to support this and our other regional conferences. Please contact us for more information and sponsorship package information.

The event program and registration form will be available on our website soon. Full information on all conferences is also available on our website: <http://www.qldwater.com.au/Mini-Conferences>.

Please contact Heather Gold for more information on this and other regional events  (hgold@qldwater.com.au).

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**3.   See you at Ozwater’14**

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A reminder to members that Ozwater’14 takes place at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre from 29 April to 1 May.

Rob Fearon will be presenting on progress with the QWRAP program and the benefits of regional alliances at 1.15pm on Tuesday and Dave Cameron will be co-facilitating a workshop on progress and future plans for the National Certification Scheme for operators in drinking water systems on Wednesday afternoon.

Read more about technical tours and other social events at <http://www.ozwater.org/program> . We look forward to seeing you there.

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