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

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

**(Issue #295 – 26 August 2016)**

**1.   Pick your favourite lego adventure**

**2.*qldwater* Innovation Forum 14/15 September 2016 – last day to avoid the late fee!**

**3.   Get your entries ready for the 2016 Ixom Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test**

**4.   DEWS Water Supply Regulation Update**

**5.   Information about EHPs new online system - Connect**

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**1.****Pick your favourite Lego adventure**

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Over the course of the year we distributed little Lego characters at ***qldwater*** regional conferences and events and asked participants to send in photos of “LP” (Lego Person) at work sites across the State. We received some great entries, and we’d like you to help us select the winner. Voting is quick and easy, just [click here](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1o_HX5EBcc4b8old4CclJlozGNd9Dj0PqQj6OzVyKqG8/edit?usp=sharing) and then select your favourite LP adventure. Voting is limited to one per email address. The winner, to be announced at the Innovation Forum on 14 September, will receive a $200 gift voucher from Camera Warehouse.

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**2.*****qldwater* Innovation Forum 14/15 September 2016 – register today to avoid the late fee**

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Register today to avoid the $100 late fee!  The program for the [2016 ***qldwater*** Innovation Forum](http://www.qldwater.com.au/2016-Innovation-Forum) is shaping up well and promises to have a good mix of fun activities and more serious discussions about trends in the Queensland Urban Water Industry. Please feel free to distribute the [A4 flyer](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=217668) to anyone you think may be interested in the event. The registration form is available [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=217719).

Thanks to our sponsors Ventia, Royce Water Technologies, Lonza Water Treatment Technologies, Liquimix and Aqseptence Group (formerly Bilfinger) – their support allows us to keep registration fees for the day to a minimum ($200 plus GST inclusive of the tour for ***qldwater*** members, dinner additional).  The sponsorship prospectus is available [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=217667) or contact [dgralton@qldwater.com.au](mailto:dgralton@qldwater.com.au) for more information.   There are still some $500 LGAQ travel sponsorships available (with complimentary $200 registration) for people attending from members with fewer than 10,000 population.

Accommodation is available at the [Brisbane Riverview Hotel](http://viewhotels.com.au/brisbaneriverviewhotel/) in Hamilton – mention the ***qldwater*** Innovation Forum when booking to secure a special price of $149 per room or $169 bed and breakfast.

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**3.****The 2016 Ixom Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test**

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In previous years we hosted regional taste test events with the finalists from each region going through to the Grand Final event. This year we decided to do one big taste test event instead, and we urge all our members to enter a sample.  The taste test is our way to promote the good work done by Queensland Water Service Providers in providing a quality product to our communities, and we need your help to spread the word.

The taste test will take place at the ***qldwater*** Innovation Forum at Colleges Crossing on 14 September 2016.  There is still some time to select your best entry by hosting a taste off of your schemes – the scientifically proven taste test wheel and scorecard is available [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=217723).

Once you’ve selected your top drop, let us know which samples you’ll be entering by completing the [Taste Test Entry Form](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=217725). Two litres of each sample can be brought along to the taste test event at Colleges Crossing. If you really can’t send anyone to the event but would like to enter a sample anyway, please contact [Desiré Gralton](mailto:dgralton@qldwater.com.au) so we can make other arrangements.

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**4.****DEWS Water Supply Regulation Update**

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Eflash #294 advertised DEWS Reporting Workshops coming up in Brisbane, Cairns and Longreach.  For those unable to make these sessions, here is a summary of some of the key activities of DEWS Water Supply Regulation:

-        As previously reported, there have been modifications to the KPI Reporting Framework under the guidance of a steering committee which included DEWS staff, several representatives from service providers, and ***qldwater.*** The changes only apply to 2016/17 indicators, not for the 2015/16 data you are likely currently compiling.  New notices are expected to be issued in November.  The changes:

o   Provide greater alignment with the National Performance Report (NPR)

o   Remove series 5 (Environment) and a few others

o   Provide better explanatory notes

o   Add a small number of new KPIs and amend a few KPIs.

-        DEWS has confirmed that PINS will be issued for late submissions without a reasonable excuse.  There were a number of late submissions in 2015, which were only allowed because it was the first year of reporting.  DEWS has responded to feedback on the difficulties with accessing some data (e.g. financial) and implemented a number of strategies to try to mitigate these issues.

-        The department is undertaking a review of several regulatory guidelines including:

o   DWQMP guidelines – to phase in over time catchment criteria and deal with the introduction of Health Based Targets to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, as well as provide more targeted competency criteria.

o   Audit and review guidelines – clarifying auditor and service provider roles, providing more guidance for DWQMP reviews, and changing auditor scope to include an assessment of competency.

o   Water quality and reporting – reducing duplication and simplifying.

o   A new non-regulatory “implementing a DWQMP” guideline.

o   A new non-regulatory annual reporting guideline (for KPIs/ performance reports) to include a template.

o   All recycled water guidelines – to incorporate WaterVal – the national recycled water validation program and update to reflect significant regulatory changes in 2014.  Note the parallel work being undertaken by the Department of Health reported in e-flash #293.

For further information, contact Sue Larsen on 3199 4856  or ***qldwater.***

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**5.****Information about EHPs new online system – Connect**

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The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) is modernising the way they deliver services to their customers with Connect.  Connect is EHP's new digital platform for online services and transactions. When you become a Connect user you can choose how you use Connect. It is free to register as a Connect user. Once you are a user, you will be able to manage and update your own information including adding other users, updating contact details, address and business information at any time.  Any changes that you make to your information are available instantly and do not have to be approved or processed by EHP.  Click [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=218805) and [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=218806) to download a Connect FAQ and Industry Fact Sheet respectively.

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**6.   QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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       The Queensland Police Service this week released a new [confidential notice](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=218807) that can accessed by ***qldwater*** members from the secure area of our website.

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**This message may be passed on to interested individuals and organisations.**

**To add your name** to the distribution list, email “subscribe” to [hgold@qldwater.com.au](mailto:hgold@qldwater.com.au)

**To remove your name** from the distribution list, email “unsubscribe” to [hgold@qldwater.com.au](mailto:hgold@qldwater.com.au)

**Visit qldwater at** [**www.qldwater.com.au**](http://www.qldwater.com.au)

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