

Watering The Outback

Delivering potable water to Outback communities

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Disclaimer:

The views portrayed in this presentation are those of the presenter and are not, in any way, representative of any organisation.



Legislation

Navigating one's way through the paperwork:

Acts – Water Supply (Safety & Reliability) Act 2008

Water Fluoridation Act 2008

SPA

Guidelines – ADWG

Regulations – Incident reporting

Policies – Environmental Protection (Water) Policy

Legislation (cont.)

Requirements:

Plans: TMP SAMP DMP
 EMP SLMP DWQMP
 RWMP TWCMP WEMP
 LGAMP CSS OWUCP

Monitoring & Incident reporting:

Reporting: SWIM (Thanks to QWD for streamlining this)
 LG Asset report
 Ad hoc

Responsibility

Who plays a part in water provision and where are they:

Service Water Providers (LG) – on the ground

DERM – Toowoomba (Some representation in Longreach)

Queensland Health – SEQ

DIP – SEQ

Private Business – Mining companies

Responsibility (Cont.)

Who plays a part in water Quality / Quantity:

Service Water Providers (LG) – monitoring & provision

DERM – allocation, records (and research)?

Queensland Health – setting standards (ADWG,
Fluoridation)

Private Business – research into CSG etc.

Educational institutions – GAB studies, etc. often funded by
big business

Responsibility (Cont.)

Who pays for water:

Infrastructure – Water Providers (LG)

State Government

Federal Government

Private Business (Mining)

Provision – Water Providers (LG)

Training – Water Providers (LG)

State Government

Research - ?

Responsibility (Cont.)

Who keeps water records:

Infrastructure – Water Providers (LG)

State Government – registers (eg bores)

Provision – Water Providers (LG)

State Government – SWIM, Quarterly water reports

Research - ?

What have we got?

Source Water:

Surface water – Longreach, Jundah, Windorah



What have we got (Cont.)?

Source Water:

Shallow bores – Jericho, Alpha, Jundah



What have we got (Cont.)?

Source Water:

GAB – Winton, Barcaldine, Muttaborra



What have we got (Cont.)?

Source Water:

Private – Rain water tanks

Commercial – Bottled



What have we got (Cont.)?

Water treatment:

Full treatment – Longreach, Isisford

Partial treatment – Alpha, Jericho

Disinfection only – Dajara

No treatment – Aramac, Barcaldine, Rain water tanks

Unknown – Bottled (some has added fluoride etc.)

What have we got (Cont.)?

Reticulation :

Materials – Concrete

AC

uPVC

HDPe

Galvanised.



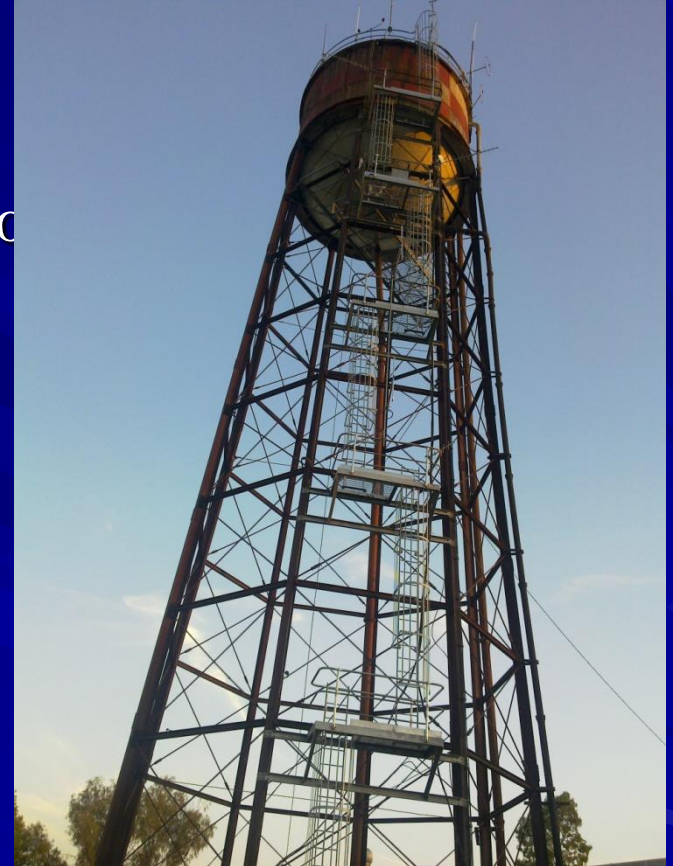
What have we got (Cont.)?

CSS:

Pressurization – Pumps

Elevated reservoir

GAB pressure



What have we got (Cont.)?

Staffing:

Qualified WTP operators – LG staff

Plumbers – Contractors / LG staff

Electricians – Contractors / LG staff

Engineers – Contractors / LG staff

Schemes:

Size – Service from 2 connections to 1000 plus per scheme

Distance – Birdsville to Alpha 14 hr car trip

Type – Simple to fully automated

What have we got (Cont.)?

Physical Characteristics:

Temperature

Chemical composition

Distance



Organisations representing the water provides (WQ):

ORWG / RAPAD - Regional approach to water supply

QWD - WSP voice through a unified organisation

LGAQ

Where to Now?

Legislation – Plans, best to re-organise existing plans to reduce work load

Unified water provision – “One size fits all” No it doesn’t!

Consistency – Do we need one set of CSS?

Should we all be paying the same?

Or do we meet customer expectations?

Where to Now?

Records – Always room for improvement

Sustainability – Not under current legislation

Fluoridation? – Applicable to Longreach, Blackall & Barcaldine

Barcaldine – Population approx. 1400
Assume 2,5 lts per person per day
Water consumed is 3500 lts (3,5 Kl)
Water used per day (summer) 5,8 Ml

Thank you.

Questions?