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

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

**(Issue #424 – 13 March 2020)**

**1. COVID-19**

**2.  Goondiwindi Small Communities Workshop**

**3.  qldwater Footy Tipping – new prizes and bragging rights**

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**1.  COVID-19**

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Dear Members

The unfolding COVID-19 issues have exposed some challenges in our preparedness as an industry body and we know many members are immersed in emergency and contingency planning.  We will keep to our philosophy during emergencies of doing our best not to contribute to the problem, only providing useful information to members as we become aware of it, and responding to requests for further information as they are made.

The Water Services Association of Australia has provided two recent updates to its members ([COVID-19 Information](https://qldwaterau.worldsecuresystems.com/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=253166) and [COVID-19 Information for Members](https://qldwaterau.worldsecuresystems.com/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=253167)) and they along with other groups like the Water Services Sector Group are providing support for water utilities nationally (more to come on the latter soon).

Member enquiries to date have focussed on emerging supply chain issues including shortages of certain chemicals, laboratory supplies and meters.  At our Technical Reference Group meeting last Friday (6 March), the group expressed concern that should the “crisis” continue for an extended period, there is an emerging risk to service providers of regulatory breaches;  e.g., if it is no longer possible for laboratories to conduct pathology testing due to reagent shortages.

**We are in the process of compiling some advice to our various key regulators of these potential impacts.  If you have concerns you wish to add beyond the types of risks listed above, other supply chain shortages you are aware of, or other issues on the topic you wish to raise, please contact** **dcameron@qldwater.com.au****, or use the** [**Zoho forum**](https://www.qldwater.com.au/forums) **topic opened for this.**

*At this stage, we are not changing plans to hold any of our events, but we realise that may change as members start looking at travel bans etc.  We will do our best to maintain these great networking opportunities but also look at webinars etc if this issue becomes protracted.  If anything does have to be cancelled, we will look at credits for future events or refunds as necessary.*

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**2.  Goondiwindi Small Communities Workshop**

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**Registrations for the** [**Goondiwindi Small Communities Workshop**](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/qwd-goondiwindi-remote-communities-workshop/) **are now open!**

The forum is jointly hosted by the Queensland Water Directorate and [NSW Water Directorate](https://www.waterdirectorate.asn.au/) and supported by Water Research Australia.

The objective of the meeting is to bring together representatives of water service providers that service smaller communities (less than 2000 persons) which are grappling with the combined issues of a small rates base, declining populations, ageing infrastructure and the obligation to maintain service standards for the protection of customers' health and the environment, at an ever-increasing cost. The program includes invited case studies for old and new technologies and a strategic session to address the complexity of providing water and sewerage services to dispersed populations.

The forum is kindly sponsored by Aquatec Maxcon, Alpha Clean Energy and Atmos Blue.

There will be an optional dinner (additional cost applies) and a technical tour to the Yelarbon Water Treatment plant (included in the registration cost) on 13 May. We would like to thank Goondiwinidi Regional Council for kindly hosting this event.

We look forward to welcoming you to Goondiwindi in May 2020!

Contact Diana Kislitsyna if you have any questions or need more information dkislitsyna@qldwater.com.au.

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**3.  qldwater Footy Tipping – new prizes and bragging rights
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The ***qldwater*** NRL and AFL tipping competitions are now open for all employees of ***qldwater*** members.

This year there will be a weekly prize for one person who selects the most winners in either Code. Even average tippers get lucky once during the competition and you can tell your colleagues you are a prize-winner even if (like Rob Fearon) you know nothing about Football.

Joining is free, simply go to [https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/qldwater&p=qldwater](https://www.footytips.com.au/comps/qldwater%26p%3Dqldwater) then:

1.      click on the green join button,

2.      refresh your account or create a new one,

3.      choose “**qldwater Tipping Comp”** competition with password “**qldwater**”

4.      Enter your preferences and start tipping in the NRL and or AFL.

There will be a mid-season mini-comp with a prize for all tippers who score higher than Dave Cameron in the 12th round. The actual prize is to be advised but with the bar set so low, many winners are projected, so it will likely be something like one of the coveted new ***qldwater*** polo-shirts.

The rules are pretty simple:

        Not tipping in any round will give you a default score (the away teams but with a maximum).

        Each tipper can choose 5 joker rounds for each Code (which doubles your score for that week).

        One $30 e-voucher will be awarded each week via email. This will be determined by a random draw among the week’s best tippers in both Codes.

        One e-voucher for $200 will be awarded for the season winner in each Code after the Grand Final. If two tippers end on the same score then margin scores will determine the ultimate winner.

        Only employees of members of ***qldwater*** can tip and win prizes. Some ***qldwater*** staff participate in the competition but are ineligible for the end of season prize.

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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 dkislitsyna@qldwater.com.au

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