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

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

**(Issue #249 - 3 February 2015)**

1. ***qldwater* 2015 events including conferences and the Orica Australia Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test**
2. **Queensland State Election implications**
3. **Environmental Code of Practice for Sewage Pump Stations and Sewerage Networks**
4. **QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**1. *qldwater* 2015 events including conferences and the Orica Australia Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test**

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Our web site will soon be updated with all our 2015 events and we again welcome Dial Before You Dig and Orica Australia as our major sponsors for the Water Connections Tour and Taste Test respectively.

Key dates we know about (both our events and those we plan on attending to meet with members) are listed below.  More to come soon but we’d like to officially make the call for papers for the Rockhampton mini-conference in mid-April as well as seek interest from any regional event sponsors – please contact Dave Cameron at dcameron@qldwater.com.au or 0407 761 991.  The Rockhampton conference will include a half day of presentations, option infrastructure tour and inflow/ infiltration workshop and dinner.

**Confirmed**

**20/2/15 – *qldwater* Steve Hrudey workshop, Brisbane**

12-13/3/15 – IPWEAQ Central Queensland Branch Conference, Biloela

**16/4/15 – *qldwater* mini-conference and CQ taste test, Rockhampton**

**4-8/5/15 – *qldwater* Water Connections Week visiting Far North Queensland**

8/5/15 – ***qldwater* mini-conference and FNQ taste test, Cairns**

14-15/5/15 – IPWEAQ South West Branch Conference, Kingaroy

3-4/6/15 – WIOA State Conference, Toowoomba **including State of Origin taste test**

31/7/15 – LGAQ Bush Council Forum St George, **including SWQ taste test**

12-15/10/15 – IPWEAQ State Conference, Mackay

19-21/10/15 – LGAQ State Conference, Toowoomba

**Unconfirmed**

**~28/8/15 - *qldwater* mini-conference and SEQ taste test, TBC**

**5/11/15 – *qldwater* 2015 innovation forum and taste test grand final**

**The Western Queensland and North Queensland** taste tests are expected to take place in conjunction with regional operator training opportunities later in the year which are still being finalised.

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**2. Queensland State Election implications**

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While it remains too early to make a call on a result, members may be interested in the responses provided to LGAQ’s 10 point plan by each major party which are available [**here**](http://www.lgaq.asn.au/web/guest/news/-/asset_publisher/pG32/content/infrastructure-funding-dominates-state-election-pledges?redirect=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.lgaq.asn.au%2Fweb%2Fguest%2Fnews%3Fp_p_id%3D101_INSTANCE_pG32%26p_p_lifecycle%3D0%26p_p_state%3Dnormal%26p_p_mode%3Dview%26p_p_col_id%3Dcolumn-4%26p_p_col_pos%3D1%26p_p_col_count%3D2).

While the responses are silent on a number of issues impacting water and sewerage service provision, QWRAP is supported by both parties with the ALP making a financial commitment in writing.

More to come – the early election has taken many by surprise including those within government and so a number of announcements we expected to see have been delayed indefinitely.  For those interested in the Industry Partnerships Strategy application (see Water Skills e-flash #37) the deadline for expressions of interest remains as 13 February as while the future of the program may be uncertain, we will likely need to be in a position to respond at very short notice if it does proceed.

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**3. Environmental Code of Practice for Sewage Pump Stations and Sewerage Networks**

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As reported in [e-Flash #236](http://www.qldwater.com.au/e-Flashes_2014) a Code of Practice for Sewage Pump Stations and Sewerage Networks is under development by ***qldwater*** and the ERA 63 industry expert panel. Significant changes have been made to the regulation covering sewerage infrastructure over the past few years (see [summary here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/sewage-pumping-stations)) and extensive consultation in the first half of 2014 resulted in an overwhelming response from the urban water industry to transition to a Code of Practice. More information on Codes of Practice is available on the [***qldwater*** website](http://www.qldwater.com.au/sewage-pumping-stations) and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection provides an [information sheet](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/era/developing-codes-of-practice-em1121.pdf) and [template](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/era/code-of-practice-template-em1050.doc) to assist industries in developing Codes.

A [draft of the Code](http://www.qldwater.com.au/ReviewDocuments) is now available for industry feedback. It has been drafted by ***qldwater*** with significant input from the industry expert group and an initial review by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. It has taken several iterations to develop a draft that covers the concerns raised by Sewerage Service providers in our early consultation and also meet the needs of the Department in developing Codes of Practice.

**Download** the [Draft Code here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/ReviewDocuments) and provide comments to enquiry@qldwater.com.au (or ring Rob Fearon on 0428 300 208) by **27th February 2015** .

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**4.  QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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The Counter-Terrorism Strategic Policy Branch of the Queensland Police Service keeps stakeholders informed of the latest media updates and forecasts relating to events in Queensland .

This information is updated regularly on our website and is provided on a confidential basis for our members only.  Members must log in first to access this information - <http://www.qldwater.com.au/Counter-terrorism>

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