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

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

**(Issue #245 – 12 November 2014)**

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**1.  Last Week to Register!  Urban Water Industry Innovation Forum – 27 November**

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Registrations closing soon!  The Earlybird rate ends this Friday 14 November for the Queensland Water Directorate Urban Water Industry Innovation Forum being held on Thursday 27 November (with field trip on 26 November).  The event is supported by LGAQ, Trility (lunch sponsor), TaKaDu Ltd (dinner sponsor) along with Unitywater, Lonza Water Treatment Technologies and the Department of Energy and Water Supply as supporting sponsors.  The technical tour is being provided by Queensland Urban Utilities.  Thanks to this support we have been able to keep the all-inclusive cost of the tour, forum and dinner at $120 + GST per person.

Don’t miss out on you seat for the technical tour to QUU’s Luggage Point Treatment Plant Innovation Centre which is taking place on the afternoon of Wednesday 26 November!  This is included in the forum registration fee but must be prebooked on the registration form.

LGAQ have one sponsorship remaining to support attendance at the forum for members in small and remote councils.  The $500 grants will help offset the costs of travel and accommodation and ***qldwater*** are providing complimentary registrations for the LGAQ recipients.  The grants are available to councils with fewer than 10,000 population and must be finalised this week.  To apply, please contact us as soon as possible.

There is a full program on the day with an excellent set of presentations and activities around the theme of “utility led innovation – fit for purpose solutions to business needs” and a keynote address from Minister McArdle.  The full program and registration form for the Luggage Point tour and the Forum is available [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/_literature_174874/Queensland_Urban_Water_Industry_Innovation_Forum_Program_and_Registration) or upon request to hgold@qldwater.com.au.   Registrations received after 14 November 2014 will incur a $100 late fee and no registrations can be accepted after 21 November.

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**2.  Date Claimer - 20 February 2015 Steve Hrudey “Ensuring Safe Drinking Water” Workshop**

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***qldwater***is pleased to host aone day workshop on 20 February 2015 with Canadian author and academic Steve Hrudey who has written a number of publications on drinking water quality incidents including the June 2014 book: *Ensuring Safe Drinking Water – Learning from Frontline Experience with Contamination*, published by the American Water Works Association. This workshop will provide a practical learning opportunity for all professionals engaged in the provision of safe drinking water.

The book consists of 21 case studies of drinking water disease outbreaks and chemical contamination episodes from authentic events that occurred in Australia, Canada, England, Finland, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland and the U.S.A.  Steve Hrudey has delivered workshops in the United States and Canada and is now offering limited workshops in Australia, with this being the only event in Brisbane.

Registrations will open in December with the event expected to cost around $100 per participant.  It will be supported by the Queensland Department of Health and conducted at their facilities at Herston near the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

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**3.  Water Research Australia Fact Sheets Now Available**

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Water Research Australia have kindly provided three Fact Sheets to ***qldwater,*** which are now available on our website <http://www.qldwater.com.au/factsheets_reports> or on the following links:

[**Health-Based Targets for Microbial Safety of Drinking Water**](http://www.qldwater.com.au/_literature_179644/Health-Based_Targets_for_Microbial_Safety_of_Drinking_Water)

[**Health-Based Targets for the Microbial Safety of Drinking Water: Stakeholder viewpoints**](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=179648)

[**Disability-adjusted life years (DALYs): What are they and how are they used?**](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=179650)

Pathogenic micro-organisms (pathogens) in source waters present a challenge for those tasked with providing safe drinking water. Water quality managers and treatment plant operators work hard to ensure that water supplied to consumers is pathogen-free. To achieve this, they are guided by the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, although advice from the ADWG on this issue could be improved. One proposal being considered is the introduction of health based targets (HBTs) for microbial safety of drinking water. The three Water Research Australia Fact Sheets provide a brief  explanation of HBTs and some rationale for their introduction into the ADWG.

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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 is keeping stakeholders informed of the latest media updates and forecasts relating to Brisbane’s G20 Event. The Stakeholder Engagement Unit provides security information and guidance on counter terrorism issues and supports liaison with other Queensland and Commonwealth agencies in relation to emergency management. The group has partnered with **qldwater** since 2011 to distribute information to Queensland Water Service Providers.  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>
* The next WSAA ‘Towards the Digital Water Utility’ webinar is being held on Tuesday 25 November, 12-1 AEDT.  Dr Cara Beal will be presenting details from the recent Australasian study of digital metering by water utilities - who is doing what, how they make the business case stack up, results being achieved, how they involve the customer, projected number of installations over next 3 years, technologies being used and much more.  For webinar registration and FAQs please go to [https://wsaatowardsthedighitalwaterutility.eventbrite.com.au](https://wsaatowardsthedighitalwaterutility.eventbrite.com.au#_blank)

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