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

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

**(Issue #313 – 27 March 2017)**

**1.   *qldwater* IS HIRING**

**2.   DEHP Review of GBR discharge policy, water quality objectives and offsets mechanism**

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We are seeking a Project Coordinator/ Researcher for an initial 14 month contract to 30 June 2018 with the hope of the role becoming ongoing.

The job involves helping manage QWRAP milestones and its research activities as well as providing support to the SEQ Design and Construct Code Network which manages continuous improvement of the Code.

There are no minimum qualification requirements but we imagine the right person will be a science, engineering or asset management graduate or have similar industry technical experience.

Full details of the role are available on Seek - <https://www.seek.com.au/Job/33095326?_ga=1.12063092.195052656.1479082020>

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**2.   DEHP Review of GBR discharge policy, water quality objectives and offsets mechanism**

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The DEHP - QLD Office of the Great Barrier Reef recently released the discussion paper: [Enhancing regulations to ensure clean water for a healthy Great Barrier Reef and a prosperous Queensland (PDF, 7.55MB)](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/assets/documents/reef/gbr-discussion-paper.pdf)  which applies to agricultural and urban areas in Great Barrier Reef (GBR) catchments and specifically targets nutrient and sediment load reduction. Regulatory impact assessment processes will occur during 2017 with ‘enhanced regulations’ due in 2018. This will include end-of-catchment load limits and a review of existing discharge licences for industrial and urban sources. More information is available at the [DEHP website](https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/agriculture/sustainable-farming/reef-regulations/) and a webinar describing the approach was held by EHP in mid-March and summarises the regulatory proposals being considered, how they may apply to new urban and industrial high-risk activities and timing and the proposed process. Some urban sewerage service providers attended the online event and asked questions relevant to the sector. The webinar can be accessed by contacting the [OfficeoftheGBR@ehp.qld.gov.au](mailto:officeoftheGBR@ehp.qld.gov.au).

Comments on the draft paper are due back to the Department on the 7th April. ***qldwater*** will be providing a collated industry response and you can contribute to this by contacting Rob Fearon ([rfearon@qldwater.com.au](mailto:rfearon@qldwater.com.au)) by the 5th April.

This review will overlap to a large extent with two other reviews currently underway by the Department. The first is the [review of water quality objectives for a number of catchments](http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/water/policy/#have_your_say_on_draft) including some draining to the GBR. Closing date for submissions on this review is the 31 May 2017. Second, the Department is undertaking a [review of their ‘nutrient offsets mechanism’](https://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/water/monitoring/voluntary-nutrient-management.html) a policy that features strongly in the GBR discussion paper but which will require some modification to be practical for regional Queensland. ***qldwater*** provided an initial submission at the request of the Department, see <http://www.qldwater.com.au/ReviewDocuments> and will be collating an industry response when the new draft version of the offsets policy is released.

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

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