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

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

**(Issue #323 – 20 June 2017)**

**1.   Put the dates in your diary - *qldwater* Annual Forum – 6 & 7 September 2017 and QWRCIP Scholarships**

**2.   *qldwater*****NQ Conference – Mackay 19 July 2017 – don’t forget to register**

**3.   Leakage Management Workshop Presentations and Outputs**

**4.   Release of *qldwater/* NSW Water Directorate 3rd Party Infrastructure on Water Supply Reservoirs Guidelines**

**5.   IPWEAQ Awards for Excellence in Engineering – Nominations Now Open**

**6.   State Budget**

**7.   Affiliated organisations announcements**

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**1.   *qldwater* Annual Forum – 6 & 7 September 2017 and QWRCIP Scholarships**

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The ***qldwater*** InnovationForum has been re-named in 2017 to become the ***qldwater*** Annual Forum with this year's theme being “No Pain, No Gain” and takes place over two days:  6 and 7 September 2017.   The purpose of the Forum has evolved over time and the current focus is on creating an environment with regulators and other decision makers which enables innovation, encouraging members to trial new ideas and deliver the most efficient and cost-effective outcomes for customers.  We are in the process of approaching speakers and discussion leaders, but can offer the following broad program outline:

***6 September - Tour***

Queensland Urban Utilities has kindly agreed to host activities which are planned to include:

-        A visit to Brisbane City Hall Museum and photo library with talks on the history of the city’s water and sewerage infrastructure

-        Visits to the historic Spring Hill reservoirs, Eagle Farm Pump Station and rising mains

-        Finishing at Luggage Point Sewage Treatment Plant and Innovation Centre, with a tour of interesting historical infrastructure, lunch, talks on innovative projects, the **Ixom Best of the Best Queensland Water Taste Test** (time to start thinking about who’s going to bring your water sample) and a “vendor pitch” session.

[The pitch session](http://www.qldwater.com.au/2017_qldwater_Annual_Forum_Vendorshowcase) is limited to six spots and currently vendors taking part in the session are:  Hydramet, Royce Water Technologies, Antec and Aqseptence Group.  Proceeds go to QWRCIP – see below.

***7 September***

The Annual Forum on 7 September will be held at the Captains Room, Allan Border Field, Albion.  The program will start at 9.00 am and will include a range of interesting sessions including keynotes, follow up from our automated metering workshop in February, and sessions focussed on key regulators (DEWS and DEHP).  Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided during the day sessions which will conclude at 5.00 pm.    
  
The sessions will be followed by an optional two course dinner and drinks at the venue from 6.00 pm.  (Additional cost applies for optional dinner).  The summary program is available [here](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/annual-forum-2017/annual-forum/Agenda); we are aiming to have the detailed draft program released in the next few weeks.

**Thanks again to Lonza Water Treatment Technologies, Royce Water Technologies and Aqseptance for registering as supporting sponsors for the Forum.  We need more sponsors (starting at $1,000) to help offset the costs of delegate registration for the rest of the forum – please contact** [**dcameron@qldwater.com.au**](mailto:dcameron@qldwater.com.au) **if you are interested.**

***QWRCIP Scholarships***

We are thrilled to announce this opportunity for employees of ***qldwater*** members with fewer than 10,000 connections.

In 2017, an opportunity arose to establish a charitable venture aimed at helping address urban water and sewerage challenges facing small and remote communities.  The Queensland Water Regional Communities Innovations Program (QWRCIP) is administered under the auspices of ***qldwater*** with a steering committee made up of members of its Technical Reference Group.

QWRCIP seeks investment from corporate and other sources and the proceeds from the “vendor pitch” session on 6 September go directly to this initiative.  The first activity to be funded under the Program are these scholarships, with up to 5 available for 2017.

*What the scholarships cover*

Attendance in Brisbane for the week of 4 – 8 September to include:

* 1-2 days with an SEQ utility, spending time with a technical specialist, learning about specific equipment or implementation of programs of interest.
* 2 days at the ***qldwater*** Innovation Forum (6/7 September) comprising tours, presentations and regulator-targeted sessions.
* Participation in the ***qldwater*** Technical Reference Group (8 September).

There are plenty of willing hosts with our SEQ members strongly supporting this initiative.  Applications for the scholarships close on 31 July.  The process is very simple – further details are available [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=229962&A=SearchResult&SearchID=103142254&ObjectID=229962&ObjectType=6).

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**2.   *qldwater*****NQ Conference – Mackay 19 July 2017**

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Registrations are open for the ***qldwater*** North Queensland Conference is being held on Wednesday 19 July in Mackay.  
  
The conference is being run in conjunction with the AWA North Queensland Branch Conference being held on 20-21 July.  Reciprocal member rates are available for attendees who attend both conferences.  Attendees will include service providers*,*government representatives, as well as AWA members who are also eligible to register at the member rate for our conference.   
  
The conference is being held at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre, Alfred Street, Mackay to be followed by an optional dinner and drinks at the Austral Hotel, 189 Victoria Street at 6.00 pm.  An additional charge applies for the dinner which includes two courses from the menu and drinks.  
  
We would like to again thank Mackay Regional Council for hosting this event. More information and program is available on the event website.   We invite you to [Register Now](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/qldwater-nq-conference-2017/qldwater-nq).

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**3.   Leakage Management Workshop Presentations and Outputs**

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We received very positive feedback from the Leakage Management workshop held on 25 May and would like to particularly acknowledge the excellent speakers and discussion leaders from Fraser Coast, Logan, Unitywater, Queensland Urban Utilities, Mackay Regional Council and City of Gold Coast.

The presentations from the workshop are now available [in the members area of our website](http://www.qldwater.com.au/Leakage_Management_Workshop_Presentations) .  Our summary report from the workshop is available [here](http://www.qldwater.com.au/LiteratureRetrieve.aspx?ID=229919).

A number of other useful resources were identified during the discussion (thanks David Wiskar), and we gratefully acknowledge the Water Services Association of Australia for agreeing to make a series of publications from 2010/2011 available in our [resource library](http://www.qldwater.com.au/Planning_Source_Water_Network) (“other resources” tab).  These include *A Review of Pressure Management Practices in the Australian Water Industry, Report on Framework for Targeting Leakage and Pressure Management,* Guidelines for *Targeting Leakage Using Nightflow Measurements,* Guidelines for *Economic Intervention Principles for Active Leakage Control,* Guidelines for *Information Requirements for Pressure Management Zones Before and After Implementation,* Guidelines for *Valuing the Benefits of Pressure Management.*

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**4.   Release of *qldwater/* NSW Water Directorate 3rd Party Infrastructure on Water Supply Reservoirs Guidelines**

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We are pleased to announce the publication of [Volume 1](http://www.qldwater.com.au/_literature_229899/3rd_Party_Infrastructure_on_Water_Supply_Reservoir_Guidelines_Volume_1) and [Volume 2](http://www.qldwater.com.au/_literature_229901/3rd_Party_Infrastructure_on_Water_Supply_Reservoirs_Guidelines_Volume_2) of these guidelines.  Volume 2 includes a series of fact sheets and templates which have been included as separate documents in our [resource library](http://www.qldwater.com.au/Planning_Source_Water_Network#tab2info) for convenience – click on the “other resources” tab.

Water Utilities are well aware that many 3rd parties and in particular licensed Telecommunications Carriers (Carriers) have significant legislative powers to enter upon property and then to both install and maintain infrastructure on existing structures, with water supply reservoirs being a particularly favoured location due to the elevation of these facilities.  Water Utilities have responsibilities to ensure both the continued supply of safe drinking water, but also to ensure worker safety during maintenance.  There are many examples where risks have increased as a result of these installations.

The overall aim of the documents is to provide advice to water utilities in relation to both the initial negotiations to install infrastructure and the long term management of water supply reservoirs affected by 3rd party infrastructure.  The guidelines are full of photographs, templates, fact sheets and practical guidance to assist with this aim.

***qldwater*** would like to specifically acknowledge those who made these documents possible, including:

-        The NSW Water Directorate

-        Murray Thomson and Jill Busch (authors)

-        Greg Burnett from Unitywater and Harry Ballinger from Bundaberg Regional Council for their guidance and support materials offered during development; and

-        Members of our technical reference group and other member staff who provided significant feedback on drafts.

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**5.   IPWEAQ Awards for Excellence in Engineering – Nominations Now Open**

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The IPWEAQ Excellence Awards recognise best practice and innovation in public works. Nominations are due by Friday 28 July so start preparing your people and project nominations now!

Entry details are available [here](http://www.ipweaq.com/awards) and categories include people awards, general local government/ public works projects, asset management projects and the following Water, Wastewater and Drought Management categories:

-        Projects over $10 million

-        Projects $5 million to $10 million

-        Projects $2 million to $5 million

-        Projects under $2 million

-        Innovation and/or Introduction of New and/or Improved Techniques

Don't miss this opportunity to showcase the great work being done on behalf of your community. All nominations are featured in the IPWEAQ [awards commemorative book](https://issuu.com/ipweaqld/docs/awards_book_2016) and winners are featured in the quarterly e-journal, [Engineering for Public Works](http://www.ipweaq.com/journal).

Winners will be announced at the gala awards ceremony and dinner to be held in Townsville on Wednesday, 25 October 2017 as part of IPWEAQ's state conference. [Early-bird registrations](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/sc1017townsville/sctsv2017/ExtraContent/ContentPage?page=1) close on 30 June. Registrations are fully refundable up to one month prior to the event and are transferrable, so if your circumstances change you won't be out of pocket.

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**6.  State Budget**

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Many will have seen state budget analyses so we’ll keep this brief and focus on the items which specifically relate to urban water and sewerage for those who haven’t:

-              $225M over 4 years to support the Townsville Water Security Taskforce

-              $120M over 4 years for indigenous water, sewerage and solid waste infrastructure

-              $5M for fluoride infrastructure

An additional allocation to expand the Queensland Water Regional Alliance Program in 2017-18 was proposed by LGAQ, but not approved.

The budget’s focus has been on capital projects, rather than capability or supporting operating costs.

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**7.  Affiliated organisations announcements**

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The Water Services Association of Australia has released a [series of fact sheets](https://www.wsaa.asn.au/publication/emerging-pathogens-concern-water-industry-fact-sheets?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Research%20Newsletter%20-%20June%202017&utm_content=Research%20Newsletter%20-%20June%202017+CID_cbbb070d5aa8ea2fb113690d422a0db8&utm_source=Email%20marketing&utm_term=Emerging%20pathogens%20of%20concern%20for%20the%20water%20industry%20fact%20sheets) of likely interest to members.  The *Emerging pathogens of concern for the water industry fact sheets* outline human infection, risks, management and trends in occurrence for: Legionella, Burkholderia, Mycobacterium, Pseudomonas, Acanthamoeba and vector-borne diseases.

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

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