

## JUNE 2018

*This newsletter is sent to General Managers and to Water and Sewer Managers in 89 regional Councils in NSW and also to 80 contacts in government departments and private industry across Australia.*

### PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL WINS THE WATER OF ORIGIN TASTE TEST FOR NSW

Congratulations to Port Macquarie-Hastings Council for winning the Ixom 2018 Water of Origin Taste Test held at the WIOA Queensland Conference in Logan in June. Back in 2013, NSW won the first ever Water of Origin Taste Test with water from MidCoast Water but since then Queensland has won it 4 years in a row! Sound familiar? NSW has broken the drought but Queensland leads 4:2 overall.



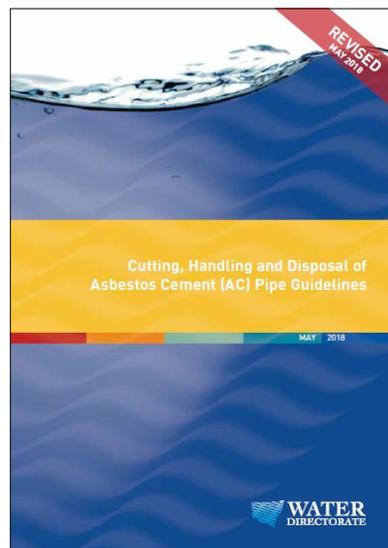
Clayton Miechel, Water and Sewer Process Manager at PM-HC, shown above holding the winner's trophy, reports that the competition for best tasting tap water between NSW and Queensland provided an opportunity to raise awareness for the high quality of tap water that we have in Australia. Clayton said it was also a fun way to celebrate the hard work of the operators and maintenance staff that goes into producing the water through some light hearted rivalry that coincided with the State of Origin Rugby League Competition.

Rubbing shoulders with Clayton is renowned larrikin, Peter Everitt, former Aussie rules player for St Kilda, Hawthorn and Sydney. These days "Spida" is a footy commentator, radio star, creator and presenter of TV caravan show The Great Australian Doorstep.

Will Port Macquarie-Hastings win **Australia's Best Tasting Water** title in September?

### LATEST PUBLICATION: UPDATE OF GUIDELINES FOR CUTTING, HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF AC PIPES

The Water Directorate's *Cutting, Handling and Disposal of Asbestos Cement Pipe Guidelines* was distributed in early June.



### MEMBERSHIP FOR 18/19

The above publication was one of 5 produced by the Water Directorate for member Councils in 17/18. Three publications are new and two publications are updates.

The 17/18 list is:

- **3rd Party Infrastructure on Reservoirs Part 1 - Engineering Aspects**, September 17, **NEW** (Joint publication with Queensland Water Directorate)
- **Report on Smart Metering Technology**, November 17, **NEW**
- **3rd Party Infrastructure on Reservoirs 2 - Legal Aspects**, February 18, **NEW**
- **O&M Manuals for WPSs**, April 18, **Update**
- **Cutting, Handling & Disposal of AC Pipe Guidelines**, May 18, **Update**

In addition the Water Directorate sponsored 6 awards for excellence in LWU projects or for individual performance. In June invoices were sent out to member Councils. Many thanks to the 23 member Councils that have rejoined so far.

### NEXT PUBLICATION: O&M MANUAL FOR WATER RETICULATION

This updated O&M Manual will be issued in August.

### PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION REPORT ON NATIONAL WATER REFORM RELEASED

The Productivity Commission Inquiry Report on National Water Reform was sent to Government on 19 December 2017 and publicly released on 31 May 2018. The report is an assessment of the progress in achieving the objectives and outcomes of the National

Water Initiative (NWI) and the need for any future reform. Read the full [Report](#) here.

The Water Directorate made a submission in the comment period. Any feedback or comments on recommendations in this report are welcomed.

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, ARMIDALE, 3-5 SEPTEMBER**

Registration is live. To be held at the Armidale Ex-Services Memorial Club, the conference presents local government attendees with a broad range of information on water policy, water management and issues associated with water supply and sewerage services provided by council-owned and operated local water utilities.

This year's conference has an impressive program focused on the following key themes:

- **The future of urban water reform**
- **Technology and innovative infrastructure solutions**
- **Water quality and sustainable water management**
- **Managing risks in the water industry**

Visit the [LGNSW website](#) to register or contact Anita Roditis, Events Sponsorship Officer, on 02 9242 4031 or [Anita.Roditis@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:Anita.Roditis@lgnsw.org.au)

### **WaterNSW 20 YEAR INFRASTRUCTURE OPTIONS STUDY**

The IOS provides a strategic level qualitative assessment of potential infrastructure options to meet long-term level of service (LOS) objectives in regulated river water supply areas across

regional NSW. The IOS identifies infrastructure options that qualitatively address perceived LOS gaps within a valley.

The IOS will be further developed with appropriate customer input, technical assessment and C-BA. Customers will be consulted about their long-term LOS priorities and infrastructure options they will support to meet those needs. The cost estimates presented are pre-feasibility level and carry uncertainty commensurate with the level of detail of this work and are for options comparison only. The IOS is not a Capital Investment Plan but rather a baseline to guide decision making and benchmark future investments.

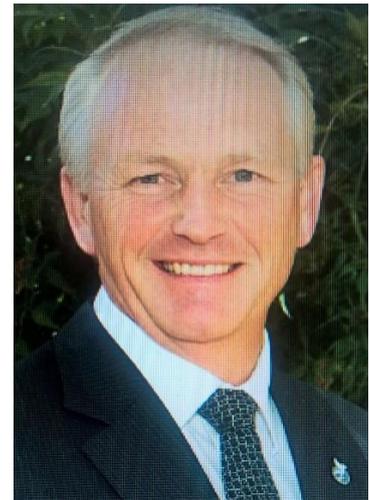
These options are being developed by WaterNSW in parallel and will come together prior to WaterNSW's 2021 price review. The IOS fulfils the target set by Infrastructure NSW's 2014 State Infrastructure Strategy Update and NSW's election commitment.

All copy of the 72 page Summary Report is available on the [WaterNSW website](#).

### **QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY GONG FOR PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL GENERAL MANAGER**

In June Parkes Shire Council GM, Kent Boyd was named in this year's Queen Birthday Honour's list with a Public Service Medal. The PSM recognises outstanding service by employees of the Australian Government and state, territory and local government through:

- Service excellence to the public, or to external or internal clients;
- Innovation in programme, project or policy development;
- Leadership, including as a member of a team; or
- Achievement of more efficient processes, improved productivity or better service delivery.



Kent and his team are highly regarded and recently have won a number of awards for their innovative projects. Kent was a keen member of the inaugural Water Directorate Executive Committee in 1998, helping to establish it and serving for over 10 years. On behalf of the Water Directorate I congratulate Kent on this great honour.

### **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

- **IPWEA (NSW Div), Annual Conference & Excellence Awards, Hunter Valley, 7-9 November**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Meeting dates for 2018 are:

- Thursday, 12 July
- Thursday, 13 September
- Wednesday, 14 and Thursday, 15 November

Gary Mitchell  
Executive Officer

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