

MARCH 2013

This newsletter is sent to General Managers and to Water and Sewer Managers in 103 regional Councils in NSW and also to over 140 contacts in government departments and private industry across Australia.

WATER DIRECTORATE FORUM AT THE IPWEA NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE, TERRIGAL, 8 MAY

The Water Directorate will facilitate a Water Forum again at the IPWEA NSW conference on Wednesday 8 May. Please attend and support the five presenters by registering at: www.ipwea.org.au/NewSouthWales/

REGISTRATIONS OPEN FOR IPWEA NSW 2013 STATE CONFERENCE, TERRIGAL, 6-8 MAY

The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (NSW Division) invite you to participate in the 2013 IPWEA NSW conference. This year's theme is 'Public Works Engineering Transformation'.

Come along and learn the different ways your peers and others are solving problems and implementing transformation within their communities.

This year will again see the return of the popular NSW Local Roads Congress, NSW Water Directorate Forum, Road Safety Forum and the NSW Conference Forum. A full and informative program is ensured for all those involved with or supplying to Public Works, Infrastructure and Local Government Engineering. Register here at: www.ipwea.org.au/NewSouthWales/

WATER DIRECTORATE OPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD TO BE ANNOUNCED

Nominations closed on 8 March and it was very pleasing to receive 9 impressive nominations from managers of operators across NSW. The representatives from WIOA and the Water Directorate who judged the nominations noted how close the scoring was for the 4

best candidates on commitment to the job, innovation, initiative and achievements.

Good luck to the nine nominees and I hope all can be present at the conference dinner for the announcement of the 7th NSW Operator of the Year on 11 April in Canberra. The winner will be presented with a set of trophies and will join WIOA's delegation to attend the New Zealand Operators conference and study tour.

LAST CALL FOR 7TH ANNUAL WIOA NSW WATER INDUSTRY OPERATIONS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION, CANBERRA, 10-11 APRIL

Registrations have closed for the conference but visitors can still register on either day to attend the trade exhibition. For details about the exhibition please contact Craig Mathisen at WIOA on 03 5821 6744 or craig@wioa.org.au.

INAUGURAL ORICA TASTE TEST AT WIOA NSW WATER INDUSTRY OPERATIONS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION, CANBERRA, 11 APRIL

The WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference and Exhibition will host for the first time the Orica NSW Water Taste Test. This a fun way to find out who has the best tasting water, raise awareness of the quality of NSW's drinking water and to recognise the efforts of LWUs in delivering water services to regional communities.

Only LWUs sending operators to the conference are eligible to enter the taste test. Water Directorate members are encouraged to send a water sample to the conference with your operators. We look forward to seeing

as many LWUs at WIOA in Canberra as possible. For more details about the Orica Taste Test please contact Craig Mathisen at WIOA on 03 5821 6744 or craig@wioa.org.au.

WATER DIRECTORATE/AWA CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE AWARD TO BE ANNOUNCED

Nominations closed at the end of March and the winner will be announced in April. The winner will attend Ozwater'13 in Perth 7-9 May. The award comprises one full registration to Ozwater'13 valued at \$1,610 courtesy of AWA as well as travel and accommodation expenses to \$1,600 provided by the Water Directorate.

This award enables a young water professional, who wouldn't normally get the opportunity for many years, to attend a world class water conference.

REPORT INDICATES THAT NSW LWUs ARE CONTINUING TO PERFORM WELL

World Water Day was celebrated internationally in March with the theme of Water Cooperation. In Australia World Water Day was an opportunity to release the 2011-12 National Performance Reports for Urban and Rural Water Utilities.

The NSW Office of Water sent a copy of the Report to all 102 NSW LWUs for information and use. The Report is available on the NOW website.

Key elements of the Report are:

- The strong NSW pricing signals, p5
- Full cost recovery, p1
- ADWG 2011, p7
- Drinking Water Quality Compliance, pp8, 88
- Interstate comparisons, p15
- Best-Practice Management implementation, p19

- Example TBL Performance Report, p69
- Example Action Plan TBL Performance Report, p67
- Real water losses, p10
- The NSW 'one stop shop', p84

In March NOW also emailed copies of each Council's 2-page 2011-12 TBL Performance Reports and Action Plan templates to the Council's General Manager for information. Please contact Graham Whyte on 8281 7432, Andrew Vaughan on 8281 7441 or Sam Samra on 8281 7435 to discuss any issues.

ENERGY SUPPLY, COSTS AND THE CARBON TAX: IMPACTS ON THE WATER INDUSTRY SYDNEY, 6:00PM, 15 MAY

AWA will explore the key issues for the water sector from rising energy costs and the Carbon Tax in July 2012. Contact Peta Owsnett on 9436 0055 or powsnett@awa.asn.au

LAST CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE 2013 LGNSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

LGNSW (formerly LGSA) is calling for papers for the annual Water Management Conference. Councils and other stakeholders are invited to forward papers and/or suggestions for the conference program, particularly on the main topics including:

- Regional water supply solutions
- Demand management and water sensitive urban design
- Review of regulatory & institutional arrangement for LWUs in regional NSW

Papers should include:

- A brief outline of the issue/main focus of your paper/suggestion.
- The preferred format for its inclusion in the program (conference paper, presentation, display, workshop topic).
- Possible presenter/s and a brief bio (50 words max).
- The type of outcome that could be expected by conference delegates.

LGNSW do not accept presentations which are solely commercial in nature. The conference dates are 8-10 September at Terrigal.

Send papers to Sascha Moege on Sascha.Moege@lgsa.org.au The closing date is 19 April 2013.

OZWATER'13 - AUSTRALIA'S LEADING INTERNATIONAL WATER CONFERENCE & TRADE EXHIBITION, PERTH, 7-9 MAY

Don't miss out on joining your peers at this 'must attend' industry event. You'll keep informed with AWA's impressive line-up of Australian and international speakers and interactive technical workshops as well as taking the opportunity to network via an entertaining social program.

As proven in previous years, Ozwater'13 is the perfect platform to discuss and debate current water issues, policies and technologies. Remember to register to attend AWA's impressive trade exhibition – it's free! www.ozwater.org/register

FORMER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER HONOURED AT THE MINISTERS' AWARDS FOR WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

This awards program was established in 2008 as part of International Women's Day celebrations to recognise and increase public awareness of the outstanding contributions and achievements in NSW to and for the local government sector.

Four category awards are given for both metropolitan and rural/regional councils. The winners of the 2013 awards were presented by the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page MP, and the Minister for Women, the Hon Pru Goward MP, in March.

Congratulations to Carmel Krogh, winner of the 2013 Ministers' Awards for Women in Local Government in the category of Senior Staff Member – Rural or Regional Council. Carmel is the Director of Shoalhaven Water, with 150 staff and an annual budget of \$80M. Carmel is well respected within the industry and holds or has held key roles in several external organisations and bodies including SCA, AWA and the Water Directorate.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting dates for 2013 are:

- 2 May
- 11 July
- 5 September
- 6,7 November

Members are welcome to forward issues for consideration at these meetings.

Gary Mitchell
Executive Officer
March 2013

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