

OCTOBER 2017

This newsletter is sent to General Managers and to Water and Sewer Managers in 89 regional Councils in NSW and also to over 140 contacts in government departments and private industry across Australia.

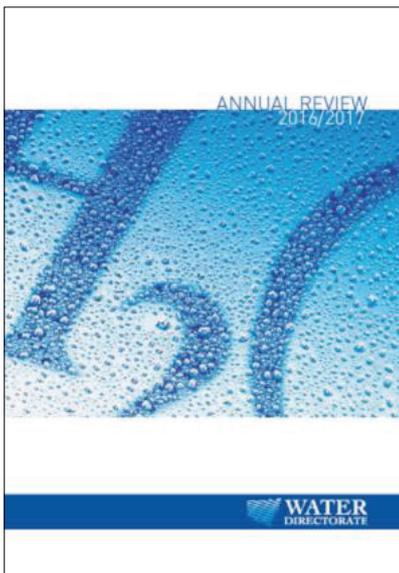
MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Membership fees are due for 2017/18 and invoices were sent out in August. I thank the 80 member Councils that have rejoined to date. We are on track to increase our membership to 88/89 NSW LWUs in 2017/18 which will be a new 99% record.

2016/17 ANNUAL REVIEW

In October a copy of our Annual Review was distributed to General Managers in NSW LWUs and to key contacts in the water industry.

Our Annual Review not only refers to the 7 publications produced and distributed to all member Councils in 2016/17 but also has a full list of projects produced since the Water Directorate commenced 19 years ago including the 7 *WIOA Practical Guides* that we purchased and distributed to all member Councils.



NEXT PUBLICATION: SMART METERING GUIDELINES

Our next publication is titled *Smart Metering Guidelines* and was prepared by WaterGroup. This topical publication will be our 81st project and is due to be issued in November.

The following publications are planned to be distributed from now through to mid 2018:

- *Third Party Infrastructure on Water Supply Reservoirs Guidelines – Part 2, Legislative Aspects*
- *O&M Manual for Water Pumping Stations*
- *O&M Manual for Water Reticulation*
- *O&M Manual for Sewer Reticulation*

PARKES SHIRE WINS WATER MANAGEMENT GONG AT 20TH LGNSW EXCELLENCE IN THE ENVIRONMENT AWARDS

In October LGNSW held their annual Environment Awards at Aerial, UTS. The highly coveted awards are now in their 20th year and recognise exceptional environmental achievements. The Water Directorate is pleased to sponsor and present again the Water Management category award.

Congratulations to **Parkes Shire Council** awarded Division A winner and Overall Category winner for the *Parkes Integrated Water Infrastructure Renewal Project*. It was my pleasant duty to present the awards to Andrew Francis, Director

Infrastructure on behalf of Parkes Shire Council.



Photo by Eventpix, Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards 2017 produced by LGNSW.

Parkes Shire Council renewed its urban water supply and sewerage schemes through the construction of a new STP, WTP and ancillary infrastructure projects. The project augments infrastructure to draw on diversified water sources including two dams, the Lachlan River, and groundwater sources. By replacing aged infrastructure and planning for more effective and extensive use of recycled water, the projects will decrease demand on scarce water resources.

Congratulations also to winner Division C, City of Canterbury Bankstown for their Kingsgrove rain garden projects and also for highly commended in Division C, to Liverpool City Council for their Liverpool integrated water quality improvement projects.

INDUSTRY TRAINING ADVISORY BODY IN NSW

Please be aware that the Local Government, water, public sector and public safety sectors are now represented by an Industry Training Advisory Body (ITAB) in NSW, following the closure of the previous Public Sector ITAB in June 2016. The Local Government sector has representatives from LGNSW, Water Directorate, Wollongong City Council (and the United Services Union) on the Board of the new Public Sector ITAB.

The NSW Department of Industry has contracted Australian Industry Standards (AIS) to perform the ITAB function, providing independent advice on matters related to vocational education and training (VET) for the public sector. Specifically, its core services are:

- Identification of industry skill needs, priorities and development issues for VET in NSW
- Promotion of training to industry to assist in the take-up of funded training
- Advising NSW Crown Lands and Water (formerly DPI Water) on apprenticeship and traineeship arrangements in NSW including school based arrangements; and
- Advising the NSW Crown Lands and Water (formerly DPI Water) on implications for the NSW training system from the development and review and of National Training Packages

For more information [go to this website](#).

To be updated about the new NSW ITAB services via emails and newsletters, please [subscribe to AIS here](#).

NEW CHEMICAL FACT SHEET ON LANTHANUM – AUSTRALIAN DRINKING WATER GUIDELINES 2011

The NHMRC maintains the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2011 through a rolling review process to ensure they provide an evidence-based framework for the management of drinking water supplies. The ADWG contains a fact sheet and health based guideline value (HBGV) for a number of chemicals that might be present in drinking water.

The draft fact sheet on lanthanum has been developed by the NHMRC and the National Industrial Chemical Notification Scheme, to provide guidance on lanthanum in drinking water. Lanthanum (marketed as Phoslock) may be applied to bodies of water to reduce algal blooms.

On 9 October 2017, NHMRC published a new chemical fact sheet and HBGV on lanthanum for inclusion in the ADWG. The administrative report on the review process of the chemical fact sheet and the summary report on the public consultation process is available on [the ADWG website](#).

For more information please [contact NHMRC](#).

LALJIBHAI RATHOD WINS INAUGURAL NSW WATER LEADER PROGRAM HALF SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Laljibhai Rathod, Operations Engineer, Kempsey Shire for winning a half scholarship valued at \$5,750, to participate in the next intake of the International WaterCentre (IWC) Water Leadership Program.

This is the first time that the Water Directorate has offered a half scholarship to our member Council staff. This award-winning professional development program starts in December and runs for nine months. The program requires a commitment of 15 days on average spread over nine months and includes two intensive training sessions in Brisbane in February and July 2018.

The half scholarship is offered to emerging managers who are currently working for a NSW Water Directorate member Council. Applicants must also currently be working in an engineering team or program management role in which they have the potential to enable the development of others, and be able to meet [the other criteria described here](#).

For information about the IWC and the Water Leadership Program, contact Brian McIntosh, Education Director, IWC, 0458 855 945, [or email](#).

It is also good news for LWUs that with some partial funding from IWC and from employer Goldenfields Water, that runner up, Shane Baldry, Mechanical Co-ordinator, will also be able to participate in the Program. Also Sogol Ghobad of Central Coast Water has also found funding to participate, so NSW LWUs will have good regional participation in the Program.

Gary Mitchell
Executive Officer
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