

APRIL 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.

THE JOINT WATER DIRECTORATE/AWA CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE AWARD

Congratulations to Tamarin Taylor, Engineering Project Officer at Riverina Water County Council. Tamarin will attend AWA's Ozwater'18 in Brisbane from 8-10 May – see next item. The award comprises one registration to Ozwater'18 kindly provided by AWA plus travel and accommodation expenses reimbursed by the Water Directorate. This award aims to promote young water industry professionals in LWUs with less than 7 year's work experience.

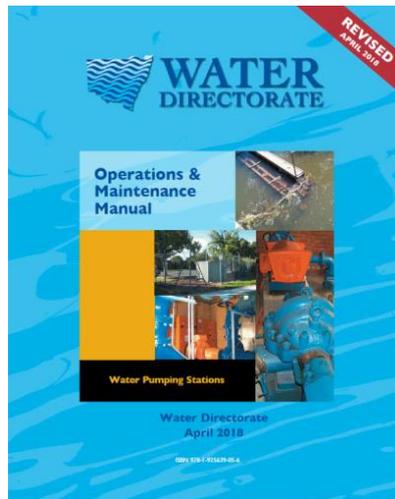
LAST CALL FOR OZWATER'18, AUSTRALIA'S INTERNATIONAL WATER CONFERENCE AND TRADE EXHIBITION, BRISBANE, 8-10 MAY

Ozwater'18, Australia's international water conference and trade exhibition is the largest water conference and exhibition in the Southern Hemisphere. Ozwater'18 is the must attend event for policy makers, councillors and other community representatives.

For full details see [this website](#). For information and to register, please contact the AWA events team at [this email address](#). This international conference brings together over 4,000 professionals from the water sector and related industries, including government.

LATEST PUBLICATION: UPDATE OF O&M MANUAL FOR WATER PUMPING STATIONS

Our latest publication is an update of the *O&M Manual for WPSs*. This update was written by Mike Brearley & Associates, overseen by the Executive Committee's Water Subcommittee and sent to all member Councils in April.



NEXT PUBLICATION: UPDATE OF GUIDELINES FOR CUTTING, HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS PIPES

Thanks to Ian Vickers, Utilities Engineer – Operations at Singleton Council for alerting us to Worksafe NSW's reviewed codes of practice titled *How To Manage and Control Asbestos in the Workplace*, and *How to Safely Remove Asbestos*. As a result we have updated the Water Directorate's *Cutting, Handling and Disposal of Asbestos Cement Pipe Guidelines*.

2018 WIOA NSW OPERATOR OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED AT THE 12TH ANNUAL WIOA NSW CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

The largest regional water industry exhibition and conference in NSW for 2018 was held in Tamworth in April. Congratulations to Dave Cashen from Bathurst Regional Council who was named the winner of this prestigious award and presented with a set of trophies. Dave will also join the WIOA tour group to NZ and attend the WIOG conference.



PORT MACQUARIE-HASTINGS COUNCIL HAS THE BEST TASTING TAP WATER IN NSW & ACT!

Congratulations to the winner Port Macquarie-Hastings Council in the Ixom 2018 NSW & ACT Water Taste Test at the WIOA Tamworth Conference.

Good luck when they next compete in the Water of Origin competition held at the WIOA Queensland Conference in Logan in June and again in the national competition in Toowoomba in October to find Australia's Best Tasting Tap Water.

THIRD PARTY INFRASTRUCTURE ON WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Executive Committee member Jason Ip from Riverina Water County Council and Jill Busch from Aqualift presented a joint paper in April titled *Co-existing with Telecommunication Carriers*. Delegates at the WIOA NSW Conference were quite shocked at the photos of structural issues and the potential WH&S and water quality hazards.

DOI WATER COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS TOOLKIT

The Safe and Secure Water Program (SSWP) is a \$1 billion program under Restart NSW, of which about \$500M has been committed to the Broken Hill pipeline project. Restart NSW's funding programs require a benefit-cost ratio of greater than 1 regardless of project cost. Projects are to provide economic benefits to the State. There are ongoing discussions regarding ways to support projects that have merit but do not achieve the required benefit-cost ratio. The SSWP has developed, and makes available to proponents who seek funding for design and construction projects, a cost benefit analysis (CBA) toolkit and targeted towards meeting requirements of Restart NSW.

The CBA toolkit is designed specifically for water and sewerage projects under the SSWP and includes a spreadsheet, user guide and guiding principles. The CBA toolkit considers issues such as public health impacts, willingness to pay and avoided costs (e.g. carting water). The CBA toolkit is applicable to typical, but not all types of projects. Proponents should review the toolkit and its applicability to their project. Proponents

should contact the SSWP team for complex projects and those valued in excess of \$10 million to confirm the applicability of the tool prior to proceeding.

The toolkit is available on the [SSWP website](#).

Some assistance in understanding and using the CBA toolkit is provided to applicants via an external consultant. Requests for this assistance should be submitted to the SSWP [via email here](#) and include a specific question for which the assistance is sought.

DoI Water's regional staff will contact Councils who have submitted expressions of interest (EoIs) to discuss approval requirements under s60 of the *Local Government Act (NSW) 1993* and clarify any specific project issues that may be evident at this stage. Proper planning is a key factor in showing that projects are strategically sound. It is recommended that ongoing liaison occurs throughout the various phases of investigation (i.e. scoping study, options study, concept design, and detailed design) to address any issues that might arise at an early stage.

Details of successful EoIs eligible to progress to the detailed application stage are listed on the [SSWP website here](#).

Details of approved projects such as LWU, description, funding and cost are also shown on a map.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting dates for 2018 are:

- Thursday, 3 May
- Thursday, 12 July
- Thursday, 13 September
- Wednesday, 14 and Thursday, 15 November

NSW HEALTH SURVEY ON WATER RECYCLING AND ON- SITE DOMESTIC WASTE- WATER MANAGEMENT

NSW Health provides advice to recycled water scheme operators and regulatory authorities on the safe reuse of wastewater to ensure public health risks are considered and managed.

NSW Health has developed a survey on water recycling and on-site domestic wastewater management. The survey will inform the development of guidance provided by NSW Health and the priority of development. Survey results will be collated and individual survey results will not be identified.

To start the survey go to [this web page](#). Multiple people from the same organisation can complete the survey so please share the survey with relevant staff in your organisation. For survey queries, please contact NSW Health Water Unit [via email](#) or call 9391 9939. **Please complete the survey by 25 May.**

REGIONAL FORUM FOR WSAA LWU MEMBERS, ALBURY, 4-5 JUNE

This Forum is dedicated to issues and challenges facing LWUs. WSAA is considering an optional site tour, afternoon Session and a networking dinner on Day 1 plus a full Day 2 Session. [You can register here.](#)

For more information contact Adam Lovell, Exec Dir, on 8397 7291, 0417 211 319, [or via LinkedIn here.](#)

Gary Mitchell
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