

## DECEMBER 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.*

### 'ANOTHER YEAR OVER'

Our 19th year has been the most productive to date and the total of our technical projects and publications now exceeds 80. Best wishes for a prosperous 2018.

### PUBLICATIONS PRODUCED IN 2017

- February - *O&M Manual for SPSs* **NEW**
- April - *s64 Determinations of ET Guidelines* **UPDATE**
- June - *O&M Manual for Pressure Sewerage Systems* **NEW**
- July - *Customer Service Plan Guidelines* **NEW**
- September - *Third Party Infrastructure on Water Supply Reservoir Guidelines, - Part 1, Engineering Aspects* **NEW**
- November - *Report on Smart Metering Technology* **NEW**

### WATERAID AUSTRALIA

While we all take a breather to rest and recuperate, WaterAid Australia continues its great work in developing countries. We encourage member Councils to become WaterAid members to support the cause.

Subscribe to WaterAid Australia's [free eNewsletter here](#).

To donate or purchase *Gifts for Life* - [see their catalogue](#). Whatever you choose from WaterAid's *Gifts for Life* catalogue will help change someone's life!

### WANTED! - NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2018 WIOA NSW OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

The Water Directorate is pleased to have sponsored this award since the inaugural presentation way back in 2007. Managers who wish to reward their dedicated operators who do great work protecting public health are urged to nominate their staff **by 23 February 2018** to be *Operator of the Year*.



The winner will be presented a set of trophies at the 12th Annual WIOA Conference at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre (TRECC) on 12 April 2018. The winner will join the WIOA tour group and attend the WIOG New Zealand conference.

To register for the WIOA NSW conference go to [this website](#).

### UPDATE ON REMOVING PROJECT 'ROAD BLOCKS'

A presentation was given by Don Murray, assistant to NSW Regional Infrastructure Coordinator LTGEN Ken Gillespie, at the November 2017 Executive Committee Meeting. The Executive Committee expressed that it is keen to assist LTGEN Ken Gillespie and Don Murray in relation to water supply and sewerage priorities and projects in regional NSW. The Executive Committee is also keen to provide further input into the current process that Ken Gillespie and Don Murray are undertaking on behalf of the NSW Premier.

The Water Directorate considers the current regulatory environment that LWUs operate within is a Road Block and a major impediment to the delivery of safe and affordable services to local communities. The Executive Committee has received advice from DOI Water that they are undertaking a review of how they regulate LWUs along with OLG, IPART, EPA and NSW Health, with an aim to optimise outcomes and improve efficiency.

The Executive Committee will attempt to keep member Councils informed about progress and where the Water Directorate and its member Councils can assist.

## NEXT PUBLICATIONS

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* **NEW**
- *O&M Manual for Water Pumping Stations* **UPDATE**
- *O&M Manual for Water Reticulation* **UPDATE**
- *O&M Manual for Sewer Reticulation* **UPDATE**

## THIRD PARTY INFRASTRUCTURE ON WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS GUIDELINES – PART 2, LEGISLATIVE ASPECTS

Our next publication is expected to be distributed in February 2018 and is titled *Third Party Infrastructure on Water Supply Reservoirs Guidelines – Part 2, Legislative Aspects*. This is a companion document to *Part 1, Engineering Aspects* distributed to all member Councils in September 2017.

This *Part 2, Legislative Aspects* Guide is designed to assist LWUs in understanding the legal position of Telco Carriers under the *Telecommunications Act 1997*. It outlines the source of a Carrier's powers to enter land and install and/or maintain Low Impact Facilities. It sets out each of the Carrier's various rights and responsibilities, including notice requirements and management of impact, so that LWUs can identify where a Carrier's action or inaction is outside of its powers under the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

Annexed to this Guide are a number of template letters which can be used in negotiating and dealing with Carriers.

## AWA HEADS OF WATER GALA DINNER, NSW AWARDS & FORUM, FRIDAY 9 MARCH, HILTON, SYDNEY

The Heads of Water **Forum** is on again in 2018. Leading 'heads of water' will bring perspective and insight to the key issues facing NSW.

The Forum is at AECOM Sydney, Level 21/420 George St, at 1.30pm - 4.30pm. The **Gala Dinner** is at the Hilton, 6.30pm - 11.00pm.

To register for these events go to [this website](#).

## IMPLEMENTING DRINKING WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Drinking water management systems are an important tool in ensuring the safety of drinking water. The *NSW Guidelines for Drinking Water Management Systems* recommend that utilities review the effectiveness of the management system at least annually. This annual internal review should include critical control point performance, response to exceptions, and progress on actions and improvements.

Utilities are requested to share a brief annual internal review report (and where completed, any external audit or review) with their local Public Health Unit. NSW Health has templates for annual review reports available from [this website](#).

A copy of the management system should also be provided if there have been any changes.

NSW Health will, as part of its submission on annual Performance Monitoring reports, provide to Crown Lands and Water the list of utilities that have submitted

an annual review report. **To meet this timing, utilities should share their review report by 30 March 2018.**

There is not a required date range for the twelve month period of the reports.

NSW Health has specialist contractors available to help water utilities implement their management systems, including helping with annual reviews. Please contact your local Public Health Unit to request support. For more information on review and audit please see [this webpage](#).

## NSW HEALTH'S NEW FACT SHEETS ON THE RISK OF AMOEBIC MENINGITIS (*Naegleria fowleri*)

LWUs should regularly monitor water temperature and chlorine residual throughout the entire distribution system. Any water supply that seasonally exceeds 30°C or continually exceeds 25°C can support the growth of *Naegleria*.

**Beginning in 2018, NSW Health requests that utilities record water temperature on Drinking Water Monitoring Program labels for all microbiology samples.**

For more information see these online resources:  
– [for LWUs](#)  
– [and for households](#).

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2018 will be the second year of the current two year term of the Executive Committee.

Gary Mitchell  
Executive Officer

© Copyright December 2017