

WATER DIRECTORATE news

JULY 2013

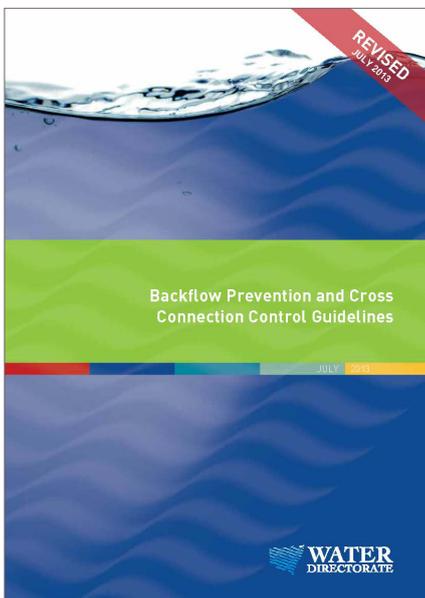
This newsletter is sent to General Managers and to Water and Sewer Managers in 103 regional Councils in NSW and also to over 140 contacts in government departments and private industry across Australia.

MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Membership fees are now due for 2013/14 and invoices were sent out in July. The Executive Committee resolved that fees be increased by CPI in order to keep pace with inflation. Thanks to the 50 member Councils that have rejoined so far.

The benefits of membership include networking opportunities with your peers in all 97 member councils via the discussion forum and receiving technical publications such as the *Revised Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control Guidelines* (see next item) and future publications such as an update of the *O&M Manual for Chlorination Installations*, *Template for Review of Environmental Factors*, and an update of *Drought Management Guidelines*.

The Executive Committee thank our members for their support over the past year. We look forward to providing newsletters, water advice, technical publications, submissions, awards, discussion forums, workshops and networking opportunities in 2013/14.



LATEST PUBLICATION - REVISED BACKFLOW PREVENTION AND CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL GUIDELINES

In July the Water Directorate's newest publication was distributed to our 97 member councils. The publication was revised in accordance with the latest changes to the Plumbing Regulations and supersedes our 2009 version.

The Water Directorate strongly urges LWUs to develop and implement policies and procedures to address backflow prevention and cross connection control issues, according to legislative requirements using these guidelines where appropriate.

This publication was updated by DL McGregor & Associates and peer reviewed by the Water Subcommittee to ensure the content is both practical and current for NSW LWUs.

WATER RECYCLING SCHEMES SECTION 60 APPROVAL APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Member councils are reminded that the NSW Office of Water has issued an application checklist template and process diagram. Go to www.water.nsw.gov.au.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, TERRIGAL 8-10 SEPTEMBER

Hosted by Gosford City Council and Wyong Shire Council, the annual Local Government NSW Water Management Conference provides an opportunity for councillors, local government professionals, government representatives and the broader industry to tackle key water management issues and discuss emerging issues in the water sector. Topics of a technical or policy interest

will be discussed by both presenters and delegates including:

- Regional water supply solutions - the two host councils will present on the Mardi Mangrove Pipeline Link - a joint, large scale infrastructure project prompted by the need to ensure water security in the rapidly growing Central Coast area.
- Demand management and water sensitive urban design - growing water supply needs have also led to innovative measures such as decentralised stormwater harvesting and recycling schemes taking into account WSUD principles community education and rebate programs.
- Review of regulatory and institutional arrangement for local water utilities in regional NSW - the conference will continue discussing the reform of local water utilities in regional NSW. It will have a look at implications from the recommendations on local water utilities made in Infrastructure NSW's Infrastructure Strategy, potential outcomes from the review of the Local Government Review Panel, as well as discuss the implementation of the Central Coast Water Corporation.

For registration enquiries please contact Karen Rolls, Events Coordinator on 9242 4050 or events@lgnsw.org.au.

To subscribe to the Water Management Conference news updates go to www.lgnsw.org.au/subscribe.

For water matters, contact Sascha Moege, Senior Policy Officer - Infrastructure & Finance on 9242 4045 or sascha.moege@lgnsw.org.au.

WATER MANAGERS FORUM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, TERRIGAL 8-10 SEPTEMBER

The Water Directorate will once again be hosting the Water Managers Forum on Monday afternoon following the opening session.

Topics that we will discuss include:

- Dam safety risk management
- Overview of legislation reviews
- Street openings
- Sewer infiltration and rehabilitation
- Standard Drawings

FEEDBACK FROM THE AWA HOSTED ASIA PACIFIC WATER RECYCLING CONFERENCE IN BRISBANE

In July, Kylie Evans, represented the Water Directorate and NSW LWUs as a panellist at the Preconference Workshop on Water Recycling in Regional Australia at the Asia Pacific Water Recycling Conference in Brisbane. Kylie is a Strategic Engineer in the Water Enterprises Directorate at Tamworth Regional Council.

Thanks to Kylie for sharing Tamworth Regional Council's experience of water recycling challenges and solutions with delegates from across Australia and the Asia Pacific.

ICE WARM PROFESSIONAL SHORT COURSES

- Adapting to Changing Climate: Impacts on Water Management, Gold Coast, Thurs 29 - Fri 30 August
- Gas Extraction and Water Management: A discussion on aquifer effects, water treatment and reuse in the unconventional gas industry Sydney, Wed 25 - Fri 27 September
- Water Modelling in HEC-RAS Melbourne, Thurs 17 - Fri 18 October
- Water in Mining School: The Science and Policy of Aquifer Interference Adelaide, Tues 29 - Thurs 31 October
- Hydrology and Hydraulics for Non-Engineers: Water science for Practitioners, Managers and Policy Makers Gold Coast, Wed 13 - Fri 15 November

Courses are presented by a team of highly regarded water professionals from across the country. For more information contact Joel at ICE WaRM on 08 8236 5208 or training@icewarm.com.au



Stewart McLeod, Chair of the Water Directorate, presented David Byrne, Executive Committee member with a voluntary service medallion for 15 years service

RETIREMENT OF DAVID BYRNE

One of our longest serving members retired from local government in July and also resigned from the Executive Committee. David Byrne, Director Engineering Services, Cooma-Monaro Shire Council is one of only three members of the Water Directorate Executive Committee who have served continuously since our first meeting in December 1998.

During that time David has consistently made a very valuable contribution to the projects and actions of the Water Directorate, particularly as a member of the Policy Subcommittee and also as the Chair of the Policy Subcommittee for several two year terms.

David has been an outstanding role model on the Executive Committee by providing peer review of many of our technical publications. He led the debate on numerous strategic directions and planning matters, and assisted as a forum panellist at water conferences.

David's experience and valuable feedback on the development of

technical publications, the website and marketing will be greatly missed. On behalf of the Executive Committee I thank David and Cooma-Monaro Shire Council for supporting the Water Directorate and its activities so well over the past fifteen years. Best wishes to David for a long and happy retirement.

Chair of the Water Directorate, Stewart McLeod presented David with a 15 year voluntary service medallion as a token of appreciation at his farewell Executive Committee meeting in July.

MEMBER FEEDBACK WELCOME

Members are more than welcome to contact me directly to raise issues or topics at any of our Executive Committee meetings.

Members are also encouraged to either or contact your regional Executive Committee members or use the Discussion Forum at www.waterdirectorate.asn.au/DiscussionForum/TechnicalIssues.aspx to receive feedback directly from your local government colleagues.

If you have not used the Discussion Forum since the revamp of our website in April you will need to first register before you can send a query.

Please contact estanley@waterdirectorate.asn.au if you have any further queries regarding the Discussion Forum or Members Area on the website.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The remaining meeting dates in 2013 are:

- 19 September
- 6 and 7 November

Gary Mitchell
Executive Officer
July 2013
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