

## AUGUST 2016

This newsletter is sent to General Managers and to Water and Sewer Managers in 88 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 2016/17 and invoices were sent out at the end of July. I thank the 60+ member Councils that have rejoined promptly. Welcome also to the new merged Councils that have 'joined'.

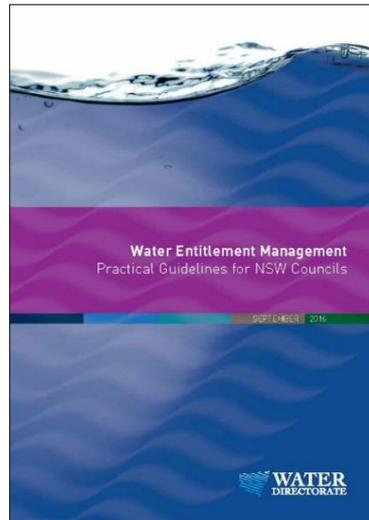
In 2015/16 we distributed 7 technical publications:

- *Work Health and Safety Guidelines*
- updated the *O&M Manual for Chlorination Installations*
- updated the *O&M Manual for STPs*
- *Chemical Specifications for Water and Wastewater Treatment*
- co-funded *Centroc's Water Loss Management Toolkit Planning Guide*
- co-funded *Centroc's Water Loss Management Toolkit Operators' Guide*
- co-funded Rous Water's *practical guide Healthy Catchments Healthy Water*

In 2016/17 we plan to distribute the following 7 technical publications:

- *Review of Dams Safety Bill 2015 new, done*
- *Water Entitlements Management Practical Guidelines new, see next item*
- *Drought Management Guidelines Update*
- *S64 Developer Guidelines Update*
- *Customer Service Plan new*
- *O&M Manual for SPSs Update*
- *O&M Manual for WPSs Update*

### NEXT PUBLICATION: WATER ENTITLEMENT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES



Our second publication for 2016/17 is expected to be distributed in September. This guideline will assist member Councils to more actively manage their water entitlements. This publication is a valuable addition to our suite of 50+ publications shown on our banner below.



### WRAP UP FROM THE LGNSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE, BROKEN HILL

In keeping with tradition, the unique blue skies clouded over and produced heavy rain during the Water Conference. Both rain and delegates were welcomed warmly by the Mayor who proudly advised us that Broken Hill is Australia's first heritage listed city, having met 8 out of 9 criteria despite only needing to meet 1 criterion. The Silver City's isolation and rich history makes it the perfect venue for a water conference, which was every bit as memorable as the last water conference held there a decade ago.



The 14<sup>th</sup> year of the Water Directorate Forum generated interesting discussion about *Water Entitlements; Dams Safety; Telecommunications equipment in Water Services Property; Water Industry Training; Savewater! Intellectual Property; and SOPs/CCPs*, etc. Forum notes will be posted on the Water Directorate website shortly. Thanks to the Executive Committee panellists Stewart McLeod, Bruce Logan, Brendan Guiney and David Oxenham, as well as guest presenters Chris Philpot and Sandy Leask.

## VALE SAM SAMRA

In August the Water Industry mourned the tragic passing of one of its tribal elders, Sam Samra. Having been in the water industry for some 50 years, Sam had a long and distinguished career in the NSW Public Service. His state level role also made Sam well known and highly regarded at the local and national levels.

From an LWU perspective, Sam leaves behind a legacy that is unlikely to be surpassed in terms of service to the NSW Urban Water Industry. The annual Performance Monitoring Report that has been prepared since 1986 is a testament to Sam's and his team's dedication to demonstrating improvement through detailed statistical analysis.

Sam's involvement at a national level with the Bureau of Meteorology and its National Performance Reporting, received the praise of a BOM colleague who advised that Sam's passion and enthusiasm was self-evident in the contributions that he made. Sam was always one of the first to respond and willing to share his extensive knowledge. Sam was one of the original State representatives who worked with the NWC and WSAA to develop up the reporting framework which encompassed developing an indicator set, the definitions handbook, the reporting arrangements, the structure and content of the report, and the auditing arrangements. Sam was a key player in all of the above processes and he brought a high degree of commitment to the national report.

The water Directorate is seeking to establish an annual award as a memorial and acknowledgment of Sam's

long term contribution, passion and dedication to the water industry. Our condolences and sympathies go to Sam's family, colleagues and friends. Sam will be sadly missed.

## LOOKING FOR WATER EFFICIENCY RESOURCES?

As mentioned in the Broken Hill Forum, Smart WaterMark has launched Smart Water Advice, designed to help LWUs meet demand management goals. It operates as a 'not for profit' water efficiency agency providing resources and support in the form of campaigns and advice. Go to <https://www.smartwatermark.org/news/july-2016-smart-watermark-update/>.

## IPWEA (NSW) STATE CONFERENCE & EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2016, CROWNE PLAZA, HUNTER VALLEY, 26- 28 OCTOBER

Again this year, the conference will bring together technical partners who are engaged in infrastructure, asset management, road and rail safety, transport, water and waste water, risk management, the environment and sustainability, technical innovation and technology.

The conference encourages representatives from across our profession and the Local Government sector to join together and exchange ideas and create discussion on how to enhance Infrastructure, Innovation and Resilience throughout our Communities. Drawing delegates from all over New South Wales, metropolitan and regional areas are always represented. The conference is of particular relevance to people who provides support within Local Government, and usually attracts an audience of Engineers, Public Works Managers, Group Managers,

Supervisors, Technical Staff, Councillors, Directors, General Managers, other Public Works' disciplines including Management Utilities and State Government Departments.

I look forward to presenting the Category 3 Award for Innovation in Water and Wastewater at the Engineering Excellence Awards Gala Dinner, an award that the Water Directorate initiated and has sponsored since 2000. Congratulations to the following seven nominees:

### Ballina Shire Council

- *Pressure and Leakage Management Plan*
- *Launch of Recycled Water Service to Ballina Shire*

### Cowra Shire Council

- *What's In Box? Sludge-Dewatering*

### Eurobodalla Shire Council

- *Kianga STP Condition Assessment*

### Glenn Innes Severn Council

- *Glenn Innes Aggregates Off Stream Storage St 2*

### MidCoast County Council

- *Our Water, Our Future*

### Port-Macquarie-Hastings Council

- *Sancrox Reservoir Construction*

### Western Plains Regional Council

- *Water Supply & Sewerage Environmental Mgt*

For more information see <http://www.ipwea.org/newsouthwales/nswevents/nswevents/nswstateconference>.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting dates for 2016 are:

- 9, 10 November

Gary Mitchell  
Executive Officer  
© Copyright August 2016  
**Please note that the Water Directorate is now at Suite 1202, L12, 32 Walker St, Nth Sydney, 2060. Ph. numbers are 9188 4390 & 9188 4391.**