

## SEPTEMBER 2016

*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.*

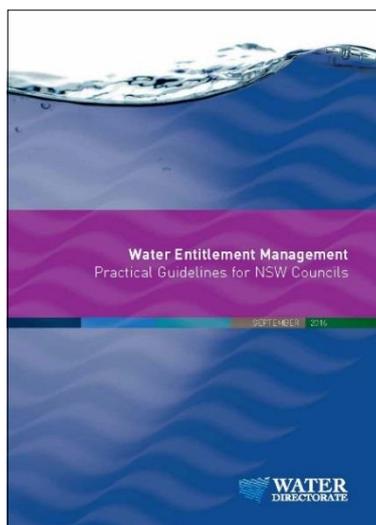
### MEMBERSHIP FEES DUE

Membership fees are due for 2016/17 and invoices were sent out at the end of July. I thank the 73 member Councils that have rejoined promptly.

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, done*
- *Drought Management Guidelines Update, planned to be released in November*
- *S64 Developer Guidelines Update*
- *Customer Service Plan new*
- *O&M Manual for SPSS Update*
- *O&M Manual for WPSs Update*

### LATEST PUBLICATION: WATER ENTITLEMENT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES



Our second publication for 2016/17 was mailed out to financial member Councils in September. This guideline will assist member Councils to more actively manage their water entitlements.

### NEXT PUBLICATION: DROUGHT MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES UPDATE

It is ironic to be announcing an updated version of our *Drought Management Guidelines 2003*, at a time when there are about a dozen NSW river systems in flood. Only four months ago many NSW dams were critically low and farms were parched but now there's been a radical turn around. Sadly the wettest spring in about 60 years in some areas of NSW has destroyed winter crops in the ground.

### BOM CLIMATE OUTLOOKS ISSUED 29 SEPTEMBER – WET LIKELY TO CONTINUE

Monthly and seasonal climate outlooks for Oct to Dec are now available on BOM's website. October rainfall is likely to be above average across northern and eastern Australia with strongest chances over Victoria, Tasmania and southern NSW.

Oct to Dec rainfall is also likely to be wetter than average for much of the country. Historical outlook accuracy for Oct to Dec is moderate to high over most of Australia. There is a strong chance of above average Oct to Dec rainfall in southeast and northwest Australia.

### BOM – AUSTRALIA'S DEFINITIVE SOURCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL INTELLIGENCE

LWUs should be aware that BOM is Australia's national provider of weather, climate, water, ocean and space weather data. BOM has provided conclusions from environmental observations and models to guide decisions and actions by governments, business and individuals for more than 100 years.

Many economically important, weather-sensitive industries and service organisations rely on BOM services for their own effective operation. These include emergency services, defence, aviation, shipping, resources, agriculture and water. In addition to BOM's freely available information to the public, they provide tailored products and services for industry clients. Specialised environmental intelligence gives BOM clients a competitive edge by enhancing operational decision-making and strategic planning.

BOM's water reporting can provide governments, the water sector, industry and the community with a national understanding of water resources to guide management activities. BOM's reporting on rainfall intensity-frequency-duration relationships can enable engineers and developers to plan and build safe, long-lasting bridges and storm-water drainage.

For enquiries concerning water data and optimally sharing and utilising scarce water resources, contact Graham Hawke, Deputy Director, Environment and Research on [g.hawke@bom.gov.au](mailto:g.hawke@bom.gov.au).

**LAST CALL FOR 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 [this website](#).

The Water Directorate will have a booth at the conference to display our suite of technical publications

**2015/16 ANNUAL REVIEW**

A copy of our Annual Review will be sent out in October to General Managers and key contacts in NSW LWUs and the local government water industry. Thanks to Juliet Cobb for producing this publication.

**TELCOS ON TANKS**

As discussed in the Water Directorate Forum at the LGNSW Broken Hill Conference, the Water Directorate is planning to produce a guideline on the general issues concerning telecommunication infrastructure on Council property.

Related to this subject is the NSW Telco Authority's Critical Communication Enhancement Program (CCEP). LWUs may be aware that the NSW Telco Authority currently runs the Government Radio Network (GRN) and that the CCEP will deliver a shared radio network across NSW for public safety agencies and essential services.

Most new shared network radio sites will use existing radio towers. All new sites and towers will comply with all relevant legislation and follow established guidelines. NSW Telco Authority say they will keep neighbours and local Councils informed of all proposed development and consider all feedback.

**2016 GREEN GLOBE AWARDS**

In September the Environment Minister, Mr Mark Speakman announced the 33 finalists in the 10 categories of the Green Globe Awards for individuals and organisations. Although not a water project, of particular interest is Bathurst Regional Council's entry, *Striving for Sustainability* in the *Public Sector Leadership* category. The winners will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on 27 October at the Art Gallery of NSW in Sydney. Good luck to all the finalists and to read more see [this web page](#).

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Meeting dates for 2016 are:

- 9, 10 November

Gary Mitchell  
Executive Officer  
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**Please note that the Water Directorate is now at Suite 1202, L12, 32 Walker St, Nth Sydney, NSW 2060. Ph: 9188 4390 & 9188 4391.**