

## MAY 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.

### PUBLICATIONS IN THE PIPELINE

A number of publications are nearing completion and will be distributed over the coming months. They include:

- *O&M Manuals for Water Pumping Stations*
- *O&M Manual for Water Reticulation*
- *O&M Manual for Sewer Reticulation*
- *O&M Manual for Pressure Sewerage Systems*
- *Telecommunication Installations on Council Infrastructure Guidelines Part 1 and Part 2*
- *Customer Service Plan Guidelines*

### WRAP UP FROM AWA Ozwater'17

In May the new, state-of-the-art International Convention Centre was the venue for Ozwater'17 and was the focus of the Australian water industry. Cliff Dredge from Clarence Valley Council attended Ozwater'17 courtesy of the AWA/Water Directorate Conference Attendance Award which has been proudly co-sponsored since 2004.

Congratulations to Cliff for winning the award this year who advised that: "Overall, the experience at Ozwater'17 is something I won't forget. It was exciting for myself and is already proving to add value for my organisation. The presentations and workshops were highly informative, providing insight and knowledge for the future."

Cliff's full report can be read on the Water Directorate's website. Water professionals in NSW LWUs with less than 7 years' experience since graduation are encouraged to read Cliff's report and to consider applying next year to attend Ozwater'18 when it will be held in Brisbane.



### MEMBERSHIP OF THE WATER INDUSTRY REFERENCE COMMITTEE

Congratulations to Jason Ip, Manager Operations, Riverina Water County Council on his successful nomination for membership of the Water Industry Reference Committee (IRC) representing the Water Directorate. The Australian Industry and Skills Committee (AISC) endorsed the structure and membership of the Water IRC on 4 May.

The Water IRC is responsible for the NWP Water Training Package including the qualifications and units of competency available under this training package. The first meeting of the new Water IRC will focus on a number of key matters, including reviewing the IRC Skills Forecast and Proposed Schedule of Work and training package development work going forward.

### WATERSECURE IS SEEKING NSW SITES FOR TESTING PATHOGEN REMOVAL PROTOCOLS

The Australian Water Recycling Centre of Excellence (AWRCE) completed its 6 year work program in July 2016. Along with a range of other outputs, AWRCE was responsible for establishing WaterVal and Water 360. WaterVal, previously known as NatVal provides a nationally consistent validation framework for water recycling processes and technologies, and is expanding into drinking water treatment. It includes validation protocols that are in the process of being endorsed for national use. Water 360 is a suite of information resources and tools on the water cycle, with a particular emphasis on water recycling.

Australian WaterSecure Innovations Pty Ltd, trading as WaterSecure, was established to continue and further develop WaterVal and Water 360. WaterSecure commenced operations in July 2016 and is hosted in the International Water Centre's Brisbane offices. WaterSecure works closely with AWA, WSAA, Water Research Australia, all state and territory governments, regulators, and the water industry more broadly; both private industry and public utilities. WaterSecure also has a formal association and working arrangement with (WERF), a peak US national water association.

WaterSecure's Protocol Development Group oversees and approves the validation protocols and includes regulators, utilities, LWUs, private industry. Each validation protocol addresses the 9 validation framework components, including pathogen removal mechanisms, identifying target pathogens and the influencing factors that affect removal of pathogens. Water Secure is in the process of securing national endorsement of the finalised pathogen removal protocols. All state and territory regulators have indicated their support for the WaterVal process. For more info see websites for [WaterSecure](#) and [WaterVal](#).

WaterVal is carrying out prototyping tests by validating real sites to see how the protocols operate. Site-based tests at **Sydney Airport**, **Gippsland Water Factory**, **Beenyup Water Recycling Plant**, and **Christies Beach MBR crop irrigation and ocean outfall**. Currently the University of Queensland is developing literature reviews for 3 priority technologies: ozonation with biologically activated carbon, ultrafiltration with microfiltration, and packed-bed media filtration. International partners in the US and South Africa are looking to adopt the Australian protocols.

**WaterSecure is looking for more sites that could be involved in testing the pathogen removal protocols – please email WaterSecure or for more information email the representative of Qld and NSW Water Directorates, Alan Kleinschmidt.**

**WANNON WATER IS SEEKING NSW LWUs TO INVESTIGATE THE BENEFITS OF UTILISING FISH IN SEWAGE TREATMENT**  
Wannon Water in Victoria has been undertaking an R&D project to determine the impact of fish on the accumulation of sludge in **lagoon based STPs**. Trials have been underway for 7 years in partnership with Deakin University. **Tank trials using primary effluent show fish can reduce the total volume of sludge up to 46% over 70 days**. Full scale trials are now underway at Hamilton and Port Campbell Water Reclamation Plants to quantify the impact of fish in **primary lagoon systems**.

**Wannon Water believe this research is significant to the Australian water industry, and is seeking interested water utilities to help finalise the research and implement this technology.** Ben Pohlner from Wannon Water has been working for a number of years on a project utilising fish in wastewater lagoons as a method of reducing sludge levels. Ben presented a paper on this project at the recent WIOA NSW conference in Canberra in March. **Ben is seeking the support of a NSW LWU to undertake a full scale trial of the process. Ben can be contacted on 0407 685 100 or by email.**

**NOMINATIONS FOR THE 18TH GREEN GLOBE AWARDS ARE NOW OPEN**  
The Green Globe Awards celebrate environmental excellence across NSW and are a fantastic opportunity to raise the profile of your organisation and shine a light on your hard work. For details [visit this website](#).

With 10 award categories on offer from Young Sustainability Champion to the Built Environment Award, it's your chance to showcase green, game changing individuals, organisations and businesses. NSW Office of Environment and Heritage wants to hear from you. Every action matters when it leads to a greener NSW.

**Nominations are open until 5pm Tuesday 27 June.**

For more information visit the website, email or call Linda Fitzsimmons - 9995 6118 or Fiona McCleary - 9995 5558.

**LGNSW CAPABILITY FRAMEWORK WORKSHOPS, 9-20 JUNE**

LGNSW is developing a Capability Framework that describes the capabilities required for various local government roles. Workshops are being held across NSW in June to get input from a range of personnel. To register visit [this website](#).

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

- **LGNSW Water Management Conference**, Dubbo, 4-6 September
- **11th National Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander Environmental Health Conference**, Cairns, 4-7 September
- **IPWEA (NSW Div), Annual Conference and Excellence Awards**, 8-10 November, Hunter Valley

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee's meeting dates for 2017 are:  
13 July  
14 September  
1,2 November

Gary Mitchell  
Executive Officer  
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