

WATER DIRECTORATE news

APRIL 2014

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.

LATEST PUBLICATION BLUE-GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT PROTOCOLS

The Water Directorate's latest guideline was issued in April. The updated protocol was produced by Adrian Farrant, Environmental Consultant under the peer review of our Water Subcommittee to align with the alert levels in the WQRA Research Report 74.

This is the fourth version of this document since first publishing it in November 2001. The Water Directorate thanks Lee Bowling from NSW Office of Water and Katrina Wall from NSW Health for their input.

8TH WATER DIRECTORATE NSW OPERATOR OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED

The 8th NSW WIOA Operators Conference was a huge success with over 650 conference and exhibition attendees. Over twenty presentations were delivered over the two days by water industry operators, experts and suppliers and more than 120 exhibition sites were set up to showcase the latest in equipment, services and process technologies.

Each year the Water Directorate proudly sponsors the NSW WIOA Operator of the Year Award and this year's winner was Todd Pattison, Wyong Shire Council's Operator in Charge of Mardi Water Treatment Plant.

The judges are always very impressed with the high quality operators in regional NSW and the Water Directorate would like to congratulate the other nominees: Allan Black from Coffs Harbour City Council, Eddie Clarke from Glen Innes Severn Council and Les Green from Walgett Shire

Council. Congratulations to WIOA and Orange City Council for hosting such a successful event. Managers are urged to consider nominating their best operators for 2015.

ORICA TASTE TEST AT WIOA NSW WATER INDUSTRY OPERATIONS CONFERENCE

The Orica NSW Water Taste Test is a fun way to find out who has the best tasting water, raise awareness of the quality of NSW's drinking water and to recognise the efforts of LWUs and operators in delivering water services to regional communities. This year Bega Valley Shire Council has won bragging rights for having

the best tasting water in NSW as judged by a panel of taste testers. Congratulations to Bega Valley Shire Council and the finalists Orange City Council, Nambucca Shire Council and Wingecarribee Shire Council. Bega Shire Council will go up against Queensland's best tasting water at the WIOA Conference in Logan in June.

WATER DIRECTORATE/AWA CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE AWARD ANNOUNCED

Luke Whitten, Water Services Engineer at Liverpool Plains Shire Council is the recipient of the 2014 AWA/Water Directorate Conference Attendance Award.



Gary Mitchell, Executive Officer Water Directorate, congratulating Todd Pattison, Wyong Shire Council, on winning the 2014 NSW Operator of the Year Award.

Luke attended OzWater'14 in late April at the magnificent Brisbane Conference and Exhibition Centre where he was congratulated by recently elected Water Directorate Chair Jeffery Sharp, Director Infrastructure & Management at Port Macquarie-Hastings Council.

Luke's award provided him with full attendance and choice of technical presentations from AWA's 3-day program featuring keynote speakers, 260 industry speakers across 8 all-inclusive conference streams, over 20 specialist workshops, technical tours, an innovation exchange and the Young Water Professionals workshop and breakfast.

This is the eleventh year the Executive Committee has offered this award and funding, to assist a worthy engineer with up to 7 years experience from a member council. Unsuccessful nominees are strongly encouraged to renominate for this award next year. We look forward to Luke's report on Ozwater'14.

REPORT INDICATES LWUs CONTINUE TO PERFORM WELL

The NSW Office of Water released its 2012-13 NSW Water Supply and

Sewerage Performance Monitoring Report in April. This report has been produced since 1986 and has been strongly endorsed by IPART and the Productivity Commission. The report shows that NSW LWUs continue to achieve consistently high standards eg average annual water supplied is a low 166 kL/property – 50% lower than in 1991.

CLARENCE VALLEY COUNCIL GREEN ALGAE MANAGEMENT PROJECT WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD AT THE 2014 ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL PROJECT INNOVATION AWARDS

Congratulations to the partnership of Clarence Valley Council, Sustainable Futures Australia, Public Works NSW & the NSW Office of Water for winning the Planning Category Award for the Iluka Sewerage Scheme in April.

The Project Innovation Awards (PIA) is a prestigious global competition which recognises and celebrates innovation and excellence in water engineering projects around the world.

Established in 2006, the program runs on a two-year cycle with the Regional Awards presented in regional forums, and the Global Awards being delivered

at the biennial IWA World Water Congress.

The town of Iluka on the Far North Coast of NSW was the largest unsewered town in NSW. Reticulated sewerage planning faced challenges about whether centralised sewerage should be provided given a very sensitive receiving environment which included a World Heritage listed area. A particular challenge was providing an affordable scheme which addressed community polarisation while meeting stringent environmental requirements.

An innovative community participation and decision making methodology called 'Dealing with our own Situation' (DWOOS)TM was developed and applied to foster community engagement through all stages of the Iluka scheme from concept design to construction.

Innovative construction procurement methodology was adopted for the Iluka scheme which combined contract 'packaging' with an 'Early Tendering Involvement' (ETI) process.

Despite significant construction challenges related to latent conditions, which delayed project completion by 9 months to September 2013, the project was completed €0.1 million under its €23.2 million budget (or approx \$0.15 million under its \$35 million budget if my conversion is correct). The Iluka scheme's successful completion demonstrates an effective partnership of government agencies, local government, contractors and the community.

LAST CALL FOR CivEnEx

Premier exhibition for civil works, construction & infrastructure, Eastern Creek, 14-15 May.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meeting dates for 2014 are:

- 8 May
- 10 July
- 11 September
- 12,13 November

Gary Mitchell
Executive Officer
April 2014

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