

JANUARY 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.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome to 2017 and the commencement of the Water Directorate's 19th year of providing technical advice on water matters to our 87 member Councils. This year may witness more changes in the structure of NSW local government with 2 mergers pending court decisions.

NEXT PUBLICATION:

An updated O&M Manual combining both Submersible SPSs and Wet & Dry SPSs will be issued in February.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **AWA Heads of Water Gala Dinner, NSW Awards & Forum**, Sydney Hilton, 10 March - see item this page
- **11th Annual WIOA NSW Water Industry Operations Conference & Exhibition (EPIC)**, in Canberra, 29-30 March - see further information in this newsletter
- **ANCOLD Dam Operators Forum**, Jindabyne, 22-23 March - see item this page
- **AWA Ozwater'17**, International Water Conference and Trade Exhibition, Sydney, 16-18 May - **take this opportunity to visit the brand new International Convention Centre**
- **IPWEA CivEnEx**, Civil works, open space management, construction & infrastructure exhibition, Hawkesbury Showground, 17-18 May

- **LGNSW Water Management Conference**, Dubbo, 4-6 September
- **IPWEA (NSW Div), Annual Conference and Excellence Awards**, Crowne Plaza, Hunter Valley, 18-20 October

LAST CHANCE TO NOMINATE FOR THE 2017 WIOA NSW OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

To reward your dedicated operators for doing great work protecting public health, **please nominate them by 10 February** to be the WIOA NSW Operator of the Year. The NSW WIOA Operator of the Year will be presented with a set of trophies at the 11th Annual WIOA Conference on 30 March at EPIC in Canberra. The winner will also join the WIOA tour group and attend the WIOG New Zealand conference.



To register [please go to this website](#).

To nominate, please use the [attached nomination form](#).

AWA HEADS OF WATER GALA DINNER, NSW AWARDS & FORUM, FRIDAY 10 MARCH, HILTON, SYDNEY

The Heads of Water Forum has been revived for 2017!

Three leading 'heads of water' will bring perspective and insight to the key issues facing NSW.

The Forum topic is 2020 and Beyond - Leading the Water Industry.

The panel will discuss:

- What are the future issues the industry and your organisation will face? What is the NSW water industry doing now to
- prepare itself for that future?
- What does the NSW water industry need to do to deliver a sustainable and secure water future?

ANCOLD DAM OPERATORS FORUM 2017, 22-23 MARCH, JINDABYNE

Registration opened in January. Don't miss the opportunity to join industry colleagues from Australia and NZ at this impressive event. Check the [Forum website](#) regularly for updates.

The theme for the Forum is *Operating dams, a future of innovation*. A comprehensive Forum program will be held on Wednesday 22 March, followed by a dinner. On Thursday 23 March a post-Forum tour will take place offering a unique opportunity to visit Snowy Hydro and local dams in the Snowy Mountains region, providing an insight into their operations.

The Forum will be held at **Rydges Horizons Snowy Mountains** overlooking Lake Jindabyne in NSW, Australia. Registration opened in January.

IWES SYDNEY 2017, FEBRUARY 13-17

Register now for IWES Sydney 2017. Go to [the IWES website](#) for more information on courses, presenters, venue, registration and full program. IWES Sydney will take place on February 13-17 and has a program of 11 courses. The featured course on BNR teaches the enabling science of biological nutrient removal, and the tools and techniques required to successfully analyse, design and optimise BNR plants.

WALK FOR WATER

The Water Challenge is WaterAid's annual fundraising event, coinciding with World Water Day on 22nd March. Workplaces can get involved by registering a team to complete the Walk for Water. The challenge is simple: set a personal distance goal or walk 10,000 steps a day between 20 and 24 March, whilst raising money to help provide lifesaving safe water to the world's poorest people. Walk for Water is a great way to raise money and awareness

for international water, hygiene and sanitation programs as well as an opportunity to get fit alongside your colleagues. Prizes are available to the highest fundraising workplaces. [To register for free, visit this website.](#)

REGIONAL WATER AND WASTEWATER BACKLOG PROGRAM

In March 2015, the NSW Government announced funding of \$110 million for [Restart NSW](#). This was for regional infrastructure projects, to go towards clearing a backlog of projects in country towns affected by ongoing water quality and sewerage problems. This will be delivered under the Regional Water and Wastewater Backlog Program. This program is part of the \$325 million Water Security for Regions reservation in the 2014-15 State budget, which is assisting the Government to meet its targets for access to and quality of potable water.

More than 30 projects have now been approved to help clear a backlog of water and sewerage projects in regional areas. These projects will boost vital water and waste water services through new infrastructure builds and modernisation. The maximum NSW Government contribution to each project is calculated in accordance with the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage program funding rules.

The Regional Water and Wastewater Backlog Program is managed by DPI Water. For more information LWUs should contact [DPI Water's regional representatives.](#)

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR THE 2017 WATER DIRECTORATE/AWA CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE AWARD

The winner of this award will attend AWA's Ozwater'17 in Sydney from 16-18 May. The award comprises one full registration to Ozwater'17 valued at \$1,845 courtesy of AWA as well as travel and accommodation expenses to \$2,000 excl. GST provided by the Water Directorate. The aim of this award is to promote young water industry professionals with less than 7 year's work experience. Nominations from final year graduates who are working in the local government water industry are also welcome. [Here is a link to the nomination form.](#) Closing date is 7 April.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

If you are a senior water engineer working in the Hunter group of councils and wish to be involved in the strategic work we do and the publications we produce, then please contact your GM ASAP to be nominated. For more information contact me on gmitchell@waterdirectorat.nsw.gov.au.

Executive Committee Meeting dates for 2017 are:

- 9 March
- 11 May
- 13 July
- 14 September
- 8,9 November

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