**Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*)** ***e-*flash**

**Information for Water Industry Managers and Practitioners in the Queensland Water Industry**

**(Issue #385– 21 March 2019)**

**1.   Last chance to register for the Biloela regional conference!**

**2. qldwater emerging contaminants workshop**

**3.   *qldwater* Young Operator of the Year and Operator of the Year – Civil/All-Rounder**

**4. Five Billion Pound Super Sewer**

**5.   QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~  1.   Last chance to register for the Biloela regional conference!
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[Registrations](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/qldwater-cq-conference-and-training-biloela-march-2019/cq-conference-2019/ExtraContent/ContentPage?page=1) for the Biloela [regional conference](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/qldwater-cq-conference-and-training-biloela-march-2019/cq-conference-2019/Agenda) close tomorrow, **Friday 22 March**! Register online now if you wish to join us there next week or contact Diana Kislitsyna on 3632 6850 to book your place.

**Tuesday 26 March** is designed for **water workers and field personnel** and will cover a number of topics including working with high pressure water jetting equipment and systems, pressurised pipelines, chemicals and hazardous substances.  It will also cover water hygiene considerations, particularly relating to water main repairs, construction and renewal activities.

Training on **Wednesday 27 March** will offer **supervisors, managers and others responsible for considering organisational risk** an overview of the risks and considerations for safely accessing reservoirs, safety for the lone/remote worker, working with high pressure water jetting equipment and systems, pressurised pipelines, chemicals and hazardous substances and water hygiene concerns relating to water main repairs, construction and renewal activities.

There will be an optional dinner on Wednesday 27 March ahead of a variety of technical presentations at the mini-conference on Thursday 28 March. Thank you to our hosts Banana Shire Council and all of our [conference sponsors](https://ipweaq.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/qldwater-cq-conference-and-training-biloela-march-2019/cq-conference-2019/Sponsor).

We look forward to seeing you there!

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 2.   qldwater emerging contaminants workshop
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The ***qldwater*** TRG and Sewage and Water Environmental Advisory Panel (SWEAP) have proposed a sector-wide workshop to discuss how the sector manages future emerging contaminants. A workshop has been planed for the 2 May, 9am – 3:30 pm (following the next SWEAP meeting on May 1st) in Brisbane.

Four broad themes to be covered: (1) current utility responses to emerging contaminants, (2) science progressing understanding of emerging contaminants, (3) future management of PFAS and (4) potential for an emerging contaminants Standing Group. The aim of the workshop is to compare notes on how utilities are increasing their resilience to future contaminant issues and to determine if the sector can work together to be better prepared. Speakers on the day represent SEQ and regional utilities, universities and national organisations but audience participation will be encouraged in each session.

A full program is available on our [website](https://www.qldwater.com.au/Events). This event is free for speakers and for up to two representatives per ***qldwater*** member, with additional attendees charged at $100 + GST per person. For further information contact rfearon@qldwater.com.au. Registrations will open next week.

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 3.   qldwater Young Operator of the Year and Operator of the Year – Civil/All-Rounder**

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Established in 2010 by ***qldwater*** in conjunction with the Water Industry Operators Association of Australia (WIOA), the Young Operator of the Year and Operator of the Year (Civil) awards recognise the outstanding operational performance of Queensland water industry employees.

Nominees for the **Young Operator of the Year** should be employed by a ***qldwater*** full member or skills partnership member organization and be responsible for operating community water and wastewater treatment plants or industrial water or wastewater plants, operation and maintenance or construction of water and wastewater reticulation networks etc. Nominees must be under the age of 35 years and have been employed in their role for 4 years or less.

Nominees for the **Operator of the Year (Civil/All-Rounder**)should be employed by a ***qldwater*** full member organization or skills partnership member organization and be responsible for the operation and maintenance or construction of water and wastewater reticulation networks.

Nominations should be submitted using the [nomination forms](https://www.qldwater.com.au/qldwaterAwards) to Carlie Sargent at csargent@qldwater.com.au by Friday 3 May 2019. Judging will be conducted by senior staff of ***qldwater*** and the Chair of the Technical Reference Group (TRG) and in consultation with the CEO of WIOA.

The following criteria will be taken into account when judging applications:

* Continuing education / training achievement;
* Overall plant management and condition or overall customer service focus;
* Demonstrated attention to Occupational Health and Safety and other regulatory responsibilities;
* Initiative and innovation demonstrated in improved operations, treatment and/or efficiency.

Supporting evidence outlining the achievements of the nominee/s in relation to all the above criteria, any local community involvement plus any other supporting information should be forwarded to qldwater.

Awards will be presented at the Annual Queensland Water Industry Operations Conference Awards Dinner, to be held in Bundaberg on Thursday 6 June 2019.

Award winners will be recognized on a perpetual plaque and receive a small personal trophy to keep. In addition,

* The winner of the Young Operator award will receive an all-expenses paid trip (value $2,500) to join the WIOA delegation on a tour of water and wastewater facilities in New Zealand as well as attending the Water Industry Operations Group NZ conference in 2020.
* The winner of the Operator of the Year (Civil/ All-Rounder) will receive $1,500 payable towards a professional development opportunity of their choosing (in consultation with their employer).

More information is available at: <https://www.qldwater.com.au/qldwaterAwards> or contact Carlie Sargent on 3632 6853 or csargent@qldwater.com.au.

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 4. Five Billion Pound Super Sewer**

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In case you’ve missed it, SBS have started screening a short series looking at an enormous capital program to construct a “super sewer” planned to run underneath the Thames.  The work is scheduled to take many years, upgrading London’s Victorian collection network and treatment system to cope with the city’s modern population, and ultimately get a lot of poo out of the Thames.

Episode 2 screens this Sunday Night, Episode 1 is available at <https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/video/1451322947749/five-billion-pound-super-sewer-the-five-billion-pound-super-sewer-series-1-ep-1>

This is a great opportunity to torture your partner/ children with unbelievable feats of engineering (and a lot of sewage).

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~  5.   QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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1. **The Queensland Police Service** has released the latest Security Advisory Bulletin relating to Attack against Mosque/s in Christchurch, NZ which is now available in the members area of our website -  <http://www.qldwater.com.au/Counter-terrorism>.   The information contained in the QPS documents may be viewed and circulated internally, however it should not be provided to the public / media or forwarded to external third parties.  Members must log in first to access this information.
2. **LGNSW** is calling for presenters for the [2019 Water Management Conference](https://www.lgnsw.org.au/events-training/lgnsw-water-management-conference), which will be held in Albury on 2-4 September. This annual event presents the most current and relevant information on water policy and regulation; water utility management; water security and quality; and service delivery.
	1. The closing date for submission of proposals is **Friday 26 April 2019**.
	2. Proposals should be submitted electronically using the online [Presentation Proposal Form](https://lgsa.wufoo.com/forms/r1oaymmi0atkowu/).
	3. Guidelines are available [here](https://www.lgnsw.org.au/files/imce-uploads/386/Call%20for%20presentations%20guide.pdf) to assist in preparing a proposal.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Mark Hely

1. **PFAS NEMP 2.0 consultation**The PFAS NEMP was published in February 2018. The Heads of EPAs (HEPA) National Chemicals Working Group has been working since to clarify and expand on the guidance in the NEMP. This updating work is consistent with the commitment by HEPA that the NEMP will be a living document. A comprehensive review of the PFAS NEMP will be undertaken in 2023.

A Public Consultation session is being held on 2 April 2019 to discuss proposed amendments to the PFAS National Environmental Management Plan (NEMP) version 2.0.
 **Location:** Conference Room ‘Quay 2’, **Park Regis North Quay**, 293 N Quay, Brisbane City QLD 4000 *(Note: on-site parking is not available; event is a short walk from Roma Street Station)***Time:** Doors open 9.30am for a 10.00am start. The session will run for 1 hour**RSVP:** [Register to attend here](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/35572/1z59f/2803148/F7PMNA_2WkJ.uW1T8slsjMOHP_.SpNpUGD3oaIQA.html)

Version 2 of the draft NEMP is available at the following links:

* [PFAS Draft NEMP version 2](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/35572/1z59f/2805098/F7PMNA_2WkJ.uW1T8slsUMESxBj1_ie9b.xA_P7B.html) (Word)
* [PFAS Draft NEMP version 2](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/35572/1z59f/2805099/F7PMNA_2WkJ.uW1T8sls8VCPBqf6G4WZ5gxeDwdX.html) (PDF)

Submissions can be made until**31 May 2019**. Information on how to make a submission is available on the [Victoria EPA website](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/35572/1z59f/2805100/F7PMNA_2WkJ.uW1T8slsvatKWHaUF77TGhMfErLK.html). Any questions regarding the consultation session may be addressed to PFASProjectTeam@des.qld.gov.au.

In addition to this, you are invited to a stakeholder consultation session on 2 April 2019 for wastewater utility providers to discuss the Plan.

**Location:** Conference Room ‘Quay 2’, **Park Regis North Quay**, 293 N Quay, Brisbane City QLD 4000 *(Note: On-site parking is not available; event is a short walk from Roma Street Station)*
**Date:** 2 April 2019
**Time:** 1.00pm. The session will run for 1 hour
**RSVP:** [Register to attend here](https://www.vision6.com.au/ch/35572/1z5bn/2803168/639X8RXlEOWaSr.LfGqO56VPQAg4dy19YJuyJFrb.html)

If you plan to attend both the public consultation session and stakeholder consultation session, please register your attendance for both sessions.

1. **WaterAid Trivia Night**
WaterAid supporters from across the water industry and further afield will once again ‘get their geek on’ and battle it out to take home the coveted WaterAid Trivia Trophy, and to help raise funds for those in need, helping people in developing communities gain access to a toilet, safe water and sanitation.

**WaterAid Trivia Night** will be held at The Fox Hotel, South Brisbane on on Friday 17th May, from 6pm - 9pm[**Register your team of 8 here**](https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/wateraid-trivia-night-tickets-58472146765) and get ready for a fun night of trivia, networking and fundraising! Your ticket also includes delicious canapés and access to a private bar. There are also a number of sponsorship opportunities available.
**Learn more about WaterAid, and the impact you can make at:**[**https://www.wateraid.org/au/what-we-do**](https://www.wateraid.org/au/what-we-do)

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**This message may be passed on to interested individuals and organisations.**

**To add your name** to the distribution list, email “subscribe” to dkislitsyna@qldwater.com.au

**To remove your name** from the distribution list, email “unsubscribe” to dkislitsyna@qldwater.com.au

**Visit qldwater at** [**www.qldwater.com.au**](http://www.qldwater.com.au)

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