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

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

**(Issue #280 -  24 February 2016)**

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**1. Call for Presentations – SEQ Regional Conference, 13 & 14 April**

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Have you been working a great project and burning to tell people who actually cared about it?  Well we’d love to hear from you.

We’ve made a fair start to the program for the South East Queensland regional conference to be held over two days on 13 and 14 April 2016 at Scarness in Hervey Bay, which starts off with a technical tour of the Wide Bay Water facilities on Wednesday afternoon, 13 April.

We are calling for SEQ relevant technical and other presentations to fill half hour slots on Thursday, 14 April.  We aim to make the process as easy as possible: you only need to provide us with a brief outline now and a powerpoint on the day if accepted.  If you are interested in presenting at this event, please email Desiré Gralton on dgralton@qldwater.com.au.

See <http://www.qldwater.com.au/2016_SEQ_Conference_Hervey_Bay> for the draft program and registration form.

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**2.   $70 million infrastructure funding brought forward**

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The Palaszczuk Government’s $70 million critical regional infrastructure fund  has been accelerated by six months to stimulate jobs and economic growth  in regional Queensland. Applications for the second funding round will now open on Monday 4 April and local councils are being encouraged to start thinking about eligible projects before next month’s local government elections.

Minister for State Development and Minister for Natural Resources and Mines Dr Anthony Lynham said the funding was part of the Queensland Government’s $200 million Building our Regions program to support jobs, foster economic development and improve liveability in regional communities.

“We want councils to get the ball rolling on applications for eligible infrastructure projects that will benefit their communities through real jobs and long term economic opportunities,” Dr Lynham said.  “As well, we have listened to the Local Government Association of Queensland and streamlined the application process.”

In this round, councils will only initially need to prepare an expression of interest. The department will assess those EOIs, shortlist projects and then give councils four weeks to prepare a detailed business case for their project.

More information and how to apply is available here:  <http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/regional-development/building-our-regions.html>

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**3.   WBBROC Regional Coordinator Position**

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WBBROC is seeking expressions of interest for the role of a Regional Water Coordinator from a suitably qualified person to work 2-3 days per week to assist WBBROC establish a Regional Water Alliance, work with Councils and Government agencies to develop a Regional Water Strategy, liaise with other key stakeholders and to bed down the new organisation.  A full position description is available here: [Water Coordinator position description.doc](http://wbbroc.org.au/Portals/0/PublicDocuments/Water%20Coordinator%20position%20description.doc)

More information is available on the website: <http://wbbroc.org.au/projects>

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**4.   Updated Australian Drinking Water Guidelines now available**

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The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) has released an update to the 2011 Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (AWDG) as part of its rolling revision of the guidelines. The recent update includes amendments to Chapter 6 (how to determine interim guideline values for chemicals detected in drinking water which do not have a guideline value), and Chapter 8 (modifications to inconsistencies in section 8.5 to 8.8, and updated information to table 8.2).

Further information is available on the [NHMRC website](http://nhmrccommunications.cmail20.com/t/r-l-vkjydtt-dkjtjktltl-t/).

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**5. *qldwater* NRL Tipping Competition**

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The ***qldwater*** NRL tipping competition is open again to employees of ***qldwater*** members. Joining is free, simply go to <http://www.footytips.com.au/comps/qldwater>, then:

1.      click on the green join button,

2.      create an account (if you don’t have one already),

3.      choose completion “**QWD NRL Tipping”** competition with password “**qldwater**”

4.      Enter your preferences and start tipping.

The rules of our competition are available on the site but some changes from last year are:

        Not tipping in any round will give you the away teams (but with a maximum).

        Each tipper can choose 5 joker rounds (which double your score for that week).

        There is no longer any bonus for tipping all teams correctly.

        Prize for leader half way through season – State of Origin Jersey of your preferred shade (of maroon).

Other rules:

        Only employees of ***qldwater*** members of can tip and win prizes.

        Prize for season winner - weekend holiday voucher for two.

        Prize for correctly tipping 8 games in any single round - bottle of wine.

If more than one person tips all 8 games in any round, a lucky draw will determine the winner of the bottle of wine.

Good luck and happy tipping.

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**6.  QUICK LINKS – ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~**  [The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](http://www.mooballmailer.com/link.php?M=633964&N=4525&L=7391&F=H) (DFAT), [the Australian WASH Reference Group](http://www.mooballmailer.com/link.php?M=633964&N=4525&L=7389&F=H) and the [International WaterCentre](http://www.mooballmailer.com/link.php?M=633964&N=4525&L=7386&F=H) (IWC) are partnering to deliver the international water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) conference "WASH Futures: Pathways to universal and sustained water, sanitation and hygiene".  The conference takes place in Brisbane from 16-20 May.  More information  is available [here](http://www.watercentre.org/services/events/wash2016/program-1).

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

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