

2024 LGNSW WATER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

DRAFT PROGRAM (as of 30 April 2024) Goulburn Recreation Area, 47-131 Braidwood Road, Goulburn Tuesday, 23 – Thursday, 25 July 2024

Sustainable Futures: Addressing Challenges in Water and Sewerage Management

Conference MC: Sophie Hull		
Tuesday 23 July 2024		
2pm	Conference registration opens, Violaia Arena – Recreation Area Trade exhibition opens, with arrival Tea and Coffee	
2.30pm – 4:30pm	Local Water Utility Workshop (NSW Water Directorate) The workshop, organised and facilitated by the NSW Water Directorate, provides opportunity to discuss high level responsibilities between Councillors and Water Managers as a strategic focus.	
5.30pm – 7.30pm	Welcome Reception Goulburn Performing Arts Centre (GPAC) Premier Partner message Atom Consulting	Cr Darriea Turley AM President Local Government NSW Cr Peter Walker Mayor Goulburn Mulwaree Council
Wednesday 24 July 2024		
8.15am – 9.00am	Conference registration opens, Violaia Arena – Recreation Area Trade exhibition opens, with arrival Tea and Coffee	
9.00am – 9.10am	Conference opens Introduction and overview of the day	MC, Sophie Hull
9.10am – 9.15am	Welcome to Country Meeting place	To be announced
9.15am – 9.25am	Welcome to Goulburn Mulwaree	Cr Peter Walker Mayor Goulburn Mulwaree Council
9.25am – 9.35am	Opening Address	Cr Darriea Turley AM President Local Government NSW

9.35am - 9:45am	Federal Minister's Address (Pre-recorded Message)	Tanya Plibersek MP Minister for the Environment and Water
9.55am - 10:15am	NSW Minister's Address	Rose Jackson MLC NSW Minister for Water
10:15am - 10:45am	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) To be advised	Speakers to be announced
10:45am - 10:50am	Overview of TRILITY	
30 minutes	Morning Tea partnered by TRILITY	
11:20am - 11:40am	NSW Health / Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (Joint presentation) To be advised	Speakers to be announced
11:40am - 11:45am	Overview of GHD	
11:45am - 11:50am	Delegates move to chosen Stream	
Concurrent conference streams (Select one of the two streams)		
STREAM 1 - Sustainable Water Resource Management STREAM PARTNER - Taggle Location - To be advised		
11:50am - 11:55am	Stream Introduction and Overview	Steve Cato Taggle
11:55am - 12:20pm	<p>Water loss management - A regional hub approach</p> <p>The Regional Leakage Reduction Program is part of DCCEEW's efforts to support a resilient NSW water sector. A key part of the program was the establishment of a Regional Water Loss Management Hub set up with the Central NSW Joint Organisation and its member councils.</p> <p>Through a water loss management maturity audit, the hub identifies management and infrastructure gaps in water loss. Subsequently, initiatives spanning pressure management, metering, leak detection, training, and data enhancement are implemented. Key insights include prioritising embedment for sustained improvement and fostering cross-boundary collaboration between state and local government.</p>	<p>Jethro Laidlaw Manager Water Efficiency Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water</p> <p>Andrew Francis Director Infrastructure & Major Projects Parkes Shire Council</p>

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12:20pm – 12:45pm	<p>How metering compliance improves water security: insights from the NSW regulator</p> <p>This presentation will provide an overview of how non-urban metering compliance supports drought resilience, reduces town water risk and improves future water security.</p> <p>Focused on local water utilities, it highlights metering compliance for local water utilities, featuring a case study on compliance pathways in NSW. It provides an overview of current council compliance, regulatory requirements, and showcases councils as community leaders in ensuring equitable access to water sources.</p>	<p>Sarah Flowers Manager, Education Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR)</p>
12:45pm – 1:10pm	<p>Mid Coast Council's Energy Transition</p> <p>Mid Coast Council has embarked on a journey to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across all its operations and transition to 100% renewable energy by 2040. Under Council's climate change strategy, key focus areas include increasing on-site generation, purchasing renewable energy and reducing energy demand. Recently Council has invested \$265,000 in solar PV systems across five sites over the past two years exemplifying its commitment to a sustainable energy transition.</p>	<p>Robert Scott Director Infrastructure & Engineering Services Mid Coast Council</p>
<p>STREAM 2 – Disaster management and resilience STREAM PARTNER – Available Location – To be advised</p>		
11:50am – 11:55am	Stream Introduction	5 minutes
11:55am – 12:20pm	<p>Progressing Stormwater Harvesting in Orange</p> <p>Stormwater Harvesting for non-direct potable use proved a critical raw water source for Orange during the Millennium drought and then again in the 2017-19 drought. Orange plans to progress to the next stage and enhance harvesting volumes through construction of the East Orange Harvesting Wetland. This presentation will describe what is next for Orange City Council and the water quality and quantity success factors that are enabling a future for stormwater.</p>	<p>Jonathan Francis Water Treatment Manager Orange City Council</p>

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12:20pm – 12:45pm	<p>Foreshadowing Climate Change Challenges - Gravity and Pressure Sewer flows during (currently) "rare" rainfall events</p> <p>Predicted climate change impacts include increased rainfall intensity and sea level rise, the latter reducing the stormwater drainage in estuarine areas. In March 2022, Clarence Valley Council on the NSW Far North Coast experienced rainfall events exceeding 1% Average Exceedance Probability (AEP), coinciding with river flooding. This presentation examines the council's sewerage networks' performance during March 2022, comparing wet and dry weather flows. With climate change, March 2022's system performance may become more "common".</p>	<p>Greg Mashiah Manager Technical Service Clarence Valley Council</p>
12:45pm – 1:10pm	<p>Fire & Water: Addressing water quality challenges in Brogo-Bermagui</p> <p>While it seemed the heat, smoke and ever-present threat of bushfires would never go away. A change in the weather was brewing. The Brogo-Bermagui catchment area went from being threatened by sweeping bushfires where water levels at the Brogo Dam dropped below 10%, the heavens opened and water levels rose over 90% in 24 hours, taking the Brogo Dam to capacity.</p>	<p>Stephen Marshall Manager, Water & Sewer Services Bega Valley Shire Council</p>
1:10pm – 2:00pm	Lunch partnered by GHD	
2:00 pm – 5:00pm	<p>Site Visit partnered by Beca HunterH2O</p> <p>Goulburn Mulwaree Council will showcase their infrastructure both old and new, including Goulburn Historic Waterworks Museum, Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Water Treatment Plant.</p>	
6.30pm – 10.30pm	<p>Conference Dinner – Goulburn Race Club Proudly partnered by NSW Water Directorate Presentation of the Sam Samra Award 2024</p> <p>Entertainment and guest speaker to be announced.</p>	

Thursday 25 July 2024

8.15am – 9.00am	<p>Conference registration opens, opens, Viola Arena – Recreation Area Trade exhibition opens, Ground floor with arrival Tea and Coffee</p>	
9.00am – 9.05am	Overview of the day	MC, Sophie Hull
9.05am – 9:20am	NSW Shadow Minister's Address	Steph Cooke, MP Shadow Minister for Water, and Crown Lands

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9.20am – 9.50am	<p>Goulburn Mulwaree Council Panel</p> <p>Three-person panel from Goulburn Mulwaree Council to provide an overview of the works that Goulburn has done around water security in the past and lead into how Goulburn is managing this as well as any external pressures or developments that council are facing.</p> <p>This is a good opportunity for the leadership team to talk about its resilience in terms of water security and show all the work that Goulburn completed after the Millennium drought.</p>	<p>Cr Peter Walker Mayor</p> <p>Aaron Johansson Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>Marina Hollands Director of Utilities</p>
9:50am – 10:20am	<p>Planning for Future Drought with rainfall independent water supplies</p> <p>NSW water supplies are largely replenished going into 2024, creating an opportunity for future drought planning. The 2018/19 drought revealed widespread vulnerabilities, nearly exhausting water in small communities and prompting larger cities to seek long-term solutions. These vulnerabilities persist and will resurface in future droughts. Early development of rainfall-independent water supplies can mitigate impacts. This presentation outlines opportunities and challenges in establishing such supplies to enhance resilience in NSW towns and cities.</p>	<p>Professor Stuart Khan Professor and Head of School, Civil Engineering University of Sydney</p>
10:20am – 10:50am	<p>Enhancing Climate Resilience: Building and Interpreting Seasonal Outlooks</p> <p>This presentation will provide an overview on leveraging seasonal outlook information to strengthen climate resilience. The presentation will cover the methodology behind constructing a climate outlook over the coming months and provide insights on how to interpret and apply this information. The presentation will show how seasonal forecasts can be integral to water management and climate resilience strategies.</p>	<p>Vjeko Matic Customer Lead – Water Sector Services Bureau of Meteorology</p>
10:50am – 10:55am	NSW Public Works overview	
10:55am – 11:25am	Morning Tea partnered by NSW Public Works	
11:25am – 11:55am	<p>Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water</p> <p>To be advised</p>	Speakers to be announced

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11:55am – 12:25pm	<p>Biosolids challenges and opportunities for regional NSW</p> <p>Biosolids' land use is likely ending due to PFAS contamination. Presently, thermal treatment is the sole method for PFAS destruction in biosolids, but traditional plants face operational challenges. RMIT's pilot of a fluidised bed heat recovery pyrolysis process with South East Water addresses these issues and will solve four big problems including PFAS destruction, 20% reduction in treatment plant scope 1 emissions, circular economy contribution with biochar and lower capital and operating cost. The presentation outlines the technology, business case, and implementation roadmap for this biosolids-to-biochar process.</p>	<p>Eamon Casey Technical Director Iota Services</p>
12:25pm – 1:00pm	<p>Regional NSW local water utilities improving water literacy, water awareness and water efficiency through collaboration.</p> <p>For 8 years, The Water Conservancy collaborated with local water utilities in NSW to promote water conservation. The Walter Smart and Friends program educated primary school students in the Central Coast and Dubbo. Over 5000 households statewide enhanced water literacy through Water Night, leading to more efficient water use. Businesses benefited from water efficiency assessments, driving savings. This presentation, alongside local water utility representatives, showcases achievements in fostering efficient water usage through examples and case studies.</p>	<p>Chris Philpot Chief Executive Officer The Water Conservancy</p>
5 minutes	MC, wrap up and close of conference	
1 hour	Lunch sponsored by	