



INDUSTRY PROGRAMS



## Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership E-News

### The Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership (ANZBP) supporting sustainable management of biosolids in Australia and New Zealand

Dear ANZBP members and colleagues,

Welcome to the latest edition of the newsletter of the Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership.

Please share this email with your colleagues, or encourage your colleagues to place their name on this email list by contacting the Program Manager. If you and your colleagues are an employee of an ANZBP member organisation and require a password to access the members website, please also contact the Project Manager.

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#### Update on ANZBP Activities

##### **AWA Biosolids Management Position Paper Launch**

Launched by ANZBP Chair, Nancy Penney, at the AWA Biosolids and Source Management Conference in June, the *AWA Biosolids Management Position Paper* draws together the most recent research from the ANZBP and internationally to inform then advocate improved biosolids management and regulatory practices. The position paper will be communicated to key stakeholders by AWA and the ANZBP. Many thanks to AWA's Biosolids Specialist Network Committee and the ANZBP's Advisory Board for their input to the paper. To download a copy of the position paper, please visit the [AWA Website](#).

##### **ANZBP Regulators Forum**

The ANZBP also hosted a successful "Regulators Forum" at the recent Biosolids Conference. Attended by around 60 people from varied backgrounds, the forum explored the current state of biosolids management practices and considered what biosolids regulation would look like in an ideal world. The recommendations of the Forum will be pursued by the ANZBP, with consultation to continue throughout 2012-13. Many thanks to the forum attendees for their participation, and a special thanks to our colleagues from regulatory bodies who kindly attended the forum and assisted the informed discussion. Thank you also to Paul Darvodelsky and Stephen Lansdell for their facilitation of the event.

##### **ANZBP Member Consultation**

Through-out the months of August and September, Tony Richards will be undertaking a round of ANZBP member consultation on behalf of the ANZBP Administration Team. Initially contact will be made via telephone with the consultation consisting of a number of brief questions regarding your perception of the ANZBP, exploring what the ANZBP could do to better service members needs. If you have already been contacted, many thanks for your assistance.

##### **Biosolids Literature Compendium**

A newly updated version of the Biosolids Literature Compendium is now available on the ANZBP [members website](#). The Compendium provides an understanding of the scope of work being undertaken by researchers and the fields in which it is being undertaken. It identifies ground-breaking research that is at the leading-edge of biosolids management, technologies and communications initiatives.

##### **ANZBP Biosolids, Climate Change and Carbon Discussion Paper**

To be released to members soon, this paper was initiated by the ANZBP due to uncertainty surrounding the impact of the Carbon Pricing Mechanism on biosolids management practices of Australian water utilities. The paper examines the impact of the CPM on producers of biosolids, outlines some critical issues concerning the application of the CPM to biosolids of which operators should be aware, and explores some opportunities for lower carbon outcomes to be delivered through effective biosolids management.

##### **Water Corporation/Curtin University Odour Management Project**

Throughout 2010-11 the Water Corporation and Curtin University undertook research into the sources of, and ability to control odour generated while treating and storing biosolids. To date the project has focused on identifying the various chemical causes of odour via small scale lab trials. The next phase will be to validate the outcomes of the initial tests on a larger scale. The objective is to eventually deliver a full pilot scale operation at a WWTP. Each project phase will also provide qualitative data on odour reduction. The ANZBP will contribute funding towards the project in 2012/13 with the objective of sharing outcomes with the ANZBP membership.

Please feel free to contact the ANZBP [Program Manager](#) should you have any questions regarding the above, or any other queries

regarding the ANZBP.

**Please visit the *Subscribers* section of the ANZBP website for access to the increasing range of ANZBP research reports.**

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## Industry News

### **ISO new field of activity - Sludge recovery, recycling, treatment and disposal**

AFNOR, the French national organisation for standardisation, has submitted a proposal to the International Organization for Standardisation to commence a new field of technical activity on Sludge recovery, recycling, treatment and disposal. The scope of this proposed area of activity is standardization of the methods for characterizing, categorizing, preparing, treating, recycling and managing sludge and products from urban wastewater collection systems, night soil, storm water handling, water supply treatment plants, wastewater treatment plants for urban and similar industrial waters. It includes all sludge that may have similar environmental and/or health impacts.

The scope will also include standardization of measurement methods for characterising and categorising: sampling methods, physical, chemical and microbiological parameters analysis, preparation of sludge, physical behaviour of sludge, all required for the characterisation of sludge with a view to facilitate decisions on the choice of the treatment procedures and of the use and disposal of sludge. The ANZBP is in contact with Standards Australia and is considering the best way to provide input, with any efforts to be co-ordinated with WSAA. If you have an interest in this activity please contact the ANZBP [Program Manager](#).

### **Tender - Transport and Disposal of Biosolids - Unitywater**

Unitywater invites tenders from suitably qualified firms for the transport and disposal of biosolids from its sewage treatment plants (Part A). Unitywater also seeks proposals for the investigation and development of other technologies and disposal pathways (Part B) as possible longer term alternatives to Part A. Interested parties may tender for both or either of the Parts. Details [here](#).

### **DSEWPAC Biosolids Snapshot 2011**

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities recently released its *Biosolids Snapshot*. The report is intended to provide a snapshot of biosolids in Australia. It collates and assesses data and information on biosolids from public sources, and water utilities and information available from the ANZBP. The Biosolids Snapshot provides information on biosolids production, end uses (markets), biosolids treatment and beneficial use, the value of biosolids, greenhouse gas implications, standards and guidelines, and market risks and opportunities. The Biosolids Snapshot can be accessed on the Department's website [here](#).

### **WEF NBP Webinars Online**

The WEF National Biosolids Partnership webinar are now available online. Many topics are of relevance to Australian and New Zealand activities. Monthly NBP webinars are held at approximately midnight Australian time, however Power Point PDF files for the webcasts are available for downloading from the [website](#).

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## Events

### **ANZBP Roadshow - Cairns, Wednesday 19th September 2012**

The ANZBP will be holding another of its successful roadshow events in Cairns, prior to the AWA Northern Queensland Regional Conference in September 2012. Hosted by Cairns Regional Council, presentations will be provided on recent ANZBP research outcomes, as well as updates on local activities and experiences. These events are interactive sessions that encourage discussion and networking and are not limited to presentations and questions. Please register your interest in attending this event with the ANZBP [Project Manager](#).

### **Carbon Tax and the Water Sector - AWA Workshop**

Melbourne: 13 November 2012 & Brisbane: 14 November 2012

Concerned about the carbon tax and the implications and risks your business might face as a result? In partnership with the ANZBP, we've developed a workshop that will give you a broad understanding of the carbon pricing mechanism in Australia and internationally. Together, we'll explore ANZBP's recently released report Biosolids, Carbon & Climate Change, where we will discuss the strategies businesses in the water industry are adopting to help manage the impacts of the carbon tax. Hear from leading experts from AECOM, University of Queensland's Advanced Water Management Centre and Sydney Water. To see the full program and to register, visit the [AWA Website](#).

### **NZ Land Treatment Collective & ANZBP workshop - Blenheim 9th April 2013**

Planning has now begun for a co-hosted event to be held before the NZ Land Treatment Collective Conference in Blenheim, New Zealand in April 2013. The workshop will be an exciting opportunity for cross-Tasman information sharing, please save the date! If you have an interest in contributing to the event please contact the ANZBP [Project Manager](#) or [Jacqui Horswell](#) at ESR.

### **WEF 2013 Residuals & Biosolids Specialty Conference - Call for Abstracts - Nashville**

The 27th Annual WEF Residuals and Biosolids Conference will be held on May 5-8, 2013 at the Nashville, TN Convention Center. The theme of the conference is "Emerging Opportunities for Sustainable Resource Recovery." WEF's Residuals and Biosolids Committee, in cooperation with the Kentucky-Tennessee Water Environment Association, is sponsoring the event. The Conference Program Committee is soliciting abstracts for oral presentations, workshops, and panel discussions to be presented at the conference. For more information visit the WEF [Website](#).

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## Website Updates

The below resources and more can be found on the public website or by [logging onto the subscribers section of the website](#) and navigating to the relevant area.

Please remember that while member resources require you to log-in to the members area of the website, the public area of the website also contains valuable information.

### **Biosolids Community Information Videos**

The ANZBP has collated a number of films explaining the biosolids management process, and various methods of use, from the US and Canada. These films are suitable for school groups or community information exercises and have been published on the [public website](#).

### **Communications and Cultural Needs - New Page**

Community consultation is an essential part of biosolids management practices. New Zealand has much experience in working with its indigenous cultures to seek effective outcomes, therefore the ANZBP's NZ members have kindly contributed to the development of this page. You will need to log-in to the [members website](#) to access this page. If you would like to contribute papers or information to this page please contact the ANZBP [Project Manager](#).

### **Metals & Contaminants Workshop, Northwest Biosolids Management Association**

Dr's George O'Connor and Rufus Chaney were the featured speakers at the recent meeting of the NBMA Research and Demonstration Committee meeting held at the King County South Treatment Plant. The speakers were directly involved in the EPA 503 risk assessment process and their talks focused on risk assessment of organic compounds in biosolids and the inorganics or heavy metals in biosolids amended soils. Please visit the [members website](#) to find the two presentations on the *General Biosolids Resources* page.

### **Responding to media/community inquiries**

This page has been developed in response to requests for assistance in managing media issues and inquiries, particularly in the face of negative media coverage or community concern. Please consider the information on this page to assist you in the development of your media package or develop a strategy to address community concern. Whilst this page is the central resource for media matters, please review the range of other useful information and communications tools on the website. You will need to log-in to the [members website](#) to access this page.

### **Pathogen Risk Paper published online**

ANZBP members and colleagues recently had a paper exploring pathogen risk and conventional treatment practices published in the AWA Water Journal. The article is freely available to AWA members on the [AWA website](#) under *Online Documents*. Formal Paper Citation: Grant, E.J., D.A. Rouch, M. Deighton, S.R. Smith. 2012. Pathogen risks in land-applied biosolids. Evaluating risks of biosolids produced by conventional treatment. AWA Water 39 (1): 72-78.

If you are an ANZBP member and require a website password please contact the [Project Manager](#).

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## **Information Sought**

### **Biosolids Contracting Checklist**

The ANZBP is aiming to develop a simple checklist of issues Biosolids Managers should consider when letting contracts for the management, handling and transport of biosolids. If you have any tips or guidance you are able to share, please contact the ANZBP [Project Manager](#).

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**As specialists working in biosolids management, you are invited to share information on biosolids developments within your locality, as well as resources and activities that may be valuable to other ANZBP subscribers. These contributions, plus your comments on this E-news or the ANZBP website ([www.biosolids.com.au](http://www.biosolids.com.au)) can be forwarded to the ANZBP Project Team - [admin@biosolids.com.au](mailto:admin@biosolids.com.au)**

**From the ANZBP Team**

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The email has been sent on behalf of the Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership by:

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