



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,

Happy New Year and welcome to the latest edition of the newsletter of the Australian and New Zealand Biosolids Partnership. In this newsletter we are proud to announce the release of a number of valuable research products as well as provide details of some upcoming ANZBP events.

Please share this email with your colleagues, or encourage your colleagues to place their name on this email list by contacting the Program Manager. Many reports are accessible only by ANZBP members and will require a password to enter the members portion of the website. If you and your colleagues are employees of an ANZBP member organisation and require access to the members website, please contact the [Program Manager](#).

Update on ANZBP Activities

ANZBP Advisory Board movements

The year 2013 kicks-off with the appointment of Michael Naughton, Coordinator Recycled Water and Biosolids at Barwon Water, as the new Chair of the ANZBP. Michael has many years of experience in wastewater, water recycling and biosolids management and is the immediate past Chair of the Vicwater Biosolids Task Group. We also welcome our new Board members: Jacqui Horswell from ESR New Zealand, Peter Marczan of the Office of Environment (NSW), Nirmala Dinesh of SA Water and Tung Nguyen from Sydney Water.

On behalf of all ANZBP members, many thanks to Nancy Penney for her efforts as ANZBP Chair for the past four years, and our thanks to Stephen Lansdell, Brendan Hanigan and Kevin Conna for their contribution as Board members.

WERF Trace Organic Compounds Research Reports online

Now published on the ANZBP website are a number of reports coming from the Water Environment Research Foundation's (WERF) *Evaluation of Fate and Exposure for Trace Organics in Biosolids-Amended Soils* research initiative. The recent research findings provide empirical data and technical understanding to assess environmental and health risks of trace organic compounds in biosolids transported to soils following land application. A substantial volume of unpublished (or recently published) experimental data was collected and is reviewed in the report. A key outcome is that a reprioritisation of trace organics in biosolids is possible based on the newly available data and better understanding of fate processes. This report will support the next phase of research. Available on the ANZBP [members website](#).

Water Corporation/Curtin University Odour Management Project online

Throughout 2011-12 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. Available on the ANZBP [members website](#).

ANZBP Biosolids, Climate Change and Carbon Discussion Paper

Released in October 2012, 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. Available on the homepage of the [AWA Website](#).

AWA Biosolids Management Position Paper Launch

Launched at the AWA Biosolids and Source Management Conference in June 2012, 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](#).

Biosolids Literature Compendium

An 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. A recommended resource that all members should explore if they require specific scientific evidence, or before starting any of their own research.

Please feel free to contact the ANZBP [Program Manager](#) should you have any questions regarding accessing the above research, 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.

Industry News

Facultative Lagoon Profiling Method published online

In order for water businesses to account for future expenses and to ensure efficient operation of facultative lagoons it is important to know the quantity of sludge in a lagoon. It is also valuable to know how quickly sludge accumulates to ensure the lagoon is maintained and is performing correctly. Vicwater Biosolids Task Group has released a document to provide a guide to determining the quantity of sludge in lagoons, the sludge accumulation rate, and how often it is necessary to measure the quantity of sludge in a lagoon. The Guide for Facultative Lagoon Profiling can be downloaded from the ANZBP [members website](#) on the "General Biosolids Resources" page.

ISO Sludge Recovery, Recycling, Treatment and Disposal Standard Considered

Throughout late 2012, Australian and New Zealand Standards bodies consulted members on the development of a possible international standard for sludge management. The scope of this proposed area of activity is standardisation of the methods for characterizing, categorising, 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. This matter has now been accepted as a new work item and a Technical Committee has been [established through ISO](#). The ANZBP will monitor the project and keep members informed of opportunities to provide input in future.

New Australian Soil Quality Website

"Soil Quality" is a collaboration between the Grains Research & Development Corporation, the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the University of WA, the WA Department of Agriculture and Food and others. Its aims are "to identify and highlight the nature and extent of soil biological, chemical and physical constraints to production systems" and to "provide the basis of an ongoing soil quality monitoring and education program". It has released a long list of fact sheets in the areas of Biological Indicators, Chemical Indicators and Physical Indicators. It also has several calculators for use. The ANZBP will contribute research and factsheets to this website. Visit the [Soil Quality website](#) for further information.

WEF NBP Webinars Online

The WEF National Biosolids Partnership webinars 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](#).

Events

ANZBP Roadshow - Newcastle, 15 February 2013

The ANZBP will be holding another of its successful roadshow events in Newcastle. Hosted by Hunter Water Corporation, 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 [Program Manager](#).

Carbon Tax Workshop 19 March, Brisbane / 20 March, Melbourne

This workshop is designed to give participants a broad overview of the Carbon Pricing Mechanism in Australia, consider some international lessons, and investigate their own scenarios. The workshop will explore information from a recently released report commissioned by the ANZBP, on Biosolids, Carbon & Climate Change exploring how the water industry is managing carbon tax implications and the risks businesses may face in the new operating environment. To register, visit the [AWA website](#).

Centre for Integrated Biowastes Research & ANZBP workshop - Blenheim 9th April 2013

A workshop will be held preceding the NZ Land Treatment Collective Conference that will bring together experts in the biosolids industry from Australia and New Zealand. The purpose of the workshop is to review the latest research, policy and guidelines and offer the opportunity for cross-Tasman knowledge sharing and foster closer linkages within the Australasian biosolids industry. If you have an interest in attending the event please contact the ANZBP [Program Manager](#) or [Jacqui Horswell](#) at ESR.

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 [Program Manager](#).

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.

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

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 [Program Manager](#).

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) can be forwarded to the ANZBP Project Team - admin@biosolids.com.au

From the ANZBP Team

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

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