

NSW State Conference 2019 Call for Abstracts for presentations

Strengthening Communities through Collaboration and Technology

Thursday 8th August and Friday 9th August
Orange, NSW

A message from the Conference Chair

The Australian Water Association NSW branch is inviting members to submit abstracts for presentations for the NSW State Conference. The key focal point of the conference this year is on strengthening communities through collaboration and the role technology can play in the development of our region and beyond.

NSW is facing unprecedented challenges for vital water resources that sustain our communities in regional and urban areas. Issues such as the impact of the drought on regional communities and the environment, workforce resilience and asset management are some of the key topics featured in this conference.

The Australian Water Association aims to inspire a broad range of presentations focused on sharing issues that are likely to influence the management of water moving forward. We encourage presentations from a diverse range of skillsets within our industry, from science, technology, engineering, business management, legal, health and safety, accounting and human resources.

The Australian Water Association's previous NSW Conferences have been very successful and have enjoyed strong growth over the years, with over 130 people attending last year's conference.

Who should submit an abstract

If you are an individual or organisation that is ready to share your experience and effect positive change towards the development of a sustainable water industry, please contribute to the conversation and submit your abstract. The committee will consider

submissions from all disciplines and from persons at all levels in an organisation, from the new graduate to the chief executive, and for independent operators with views and new technical information to share across the industry and promote collaboration.

A selection of keynote speakers have been invited to provide new perspectives, quality leadership and thematic direction setting for the conference.

The submission could be a research case study or project delivered on any of the Conference themes listed below:

Regional Water Management

- Capacity and capability of regional water utilities to deliver capital projects
- Groundwater management – Policy and Operations
- Customer expectations – water quality and benchmarking regional water utilities with metropolitan water utilities

Drought

- Factors influencing the current drought
- Water Security and Water Management across regional NSW
- Long term solutions for drought management across regional NSW
- Socio-economic and environmental impacts of the drought in regional communities

Water and the Triple Bottom Line

- Planning and achieving a sustainable future using the triple bottom line
- Collaborative approaches in achieving the triple bottom line
- Customer impacts of the triple bottom line

Climate Action and Adaptation

- How can the water industry be adaptive and resilient to climate-related hazards?

- Case studies of integrating climate change measures into strategy and planning
- Recovering from climate-related hazards
- How can we reduce customer vulnerability from a changing climate?

Innovation

- Technology implementation in regional communities
- Innovative approaches to balancing regional water management stressors
- Design approaches to better plan infrastructure
- Collaborative approaches to solving regional water challenges

Urban Water Management

- Rules and regulations around discharge to waterways for small urban town and villages

Asset Management

- Planning and delivering assets to balance lifecycle costs, capturing totex driven decision making
- Asset knowledge, data capture and management in the regional context
- Resource prioritisation in managing a diverse asset base

Your Workforce

- Planning for capital delivery cycles
- Specialists versus generalists
- Workforce resilience through succession planning and change management

Submitting

Abstracts for presentations should contain a brief introduction, methodology, results and explain the expected outcomes for the conference delegates. A [template](#) is available that be used as a guide for your submission.

Closing date for submission of abstracts is **Friday, 17 May**. Email your abstract to tcameron@awa.asn.au

Abstract submission guidelines

- You may submit more than one abstract
- Abstracts are to be no longer than 400 words and no more than 1 page
- A speaker biography must be attached
- Must be submitted electronically
- Must be submitted in Word format using the template provided
- Must contain the person's name, phone number and email address
- Should not contain pictures or graphics
- Presenters must register for the conference (discounted speaker rate) by **28 June 2019**
- By submitting you also give permission for your abstract to be considered for a paper in the Associations e-journal

Abstracts may be published in the conference proceedings and the presentation made available to delegates by website download.

The abstracts will be reviewed by the Conference Organising Committee. Selection will be based on:

- Thematic Relevance
- Appeal to a broad audience
- Originality
- Technical Content

Proof of client endorsement for abstracts and presentations will be required before acceptance, to limit overt commercial / marketing messages.

Should you wish to present a **Poster** at the NSW State Conference – using the same subthemes. Please submit [here](#)

All presenters will be required to provide a copy of their presentation for inclusion on the AWA website for delegates to download.

For more information on the conference, trade exhibition or sponsorship opportunities for the NSW State Conference, please contact:

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Hope to see you at the Conference

Tanya