

**Bringing Law** and Business Together

# Water 2010 Summ

Solutions to water management projects

16 August 2010, Crowne Plaza Darling Harbour, Sydney

### **Key** benefits

- Track the developments in the burgeoning **\$2.8 billion trade** of water entitlements
- Seize the opportunities in upcoming urban infrastructure projects
- Receive comprehensive debriefs on recycled water use and waste water reuse projects
- Head off the risk of liability and litigation with an informed update on land contamination and environmental degradation

### Speakers

### Will Fargher

**GM Water Markets, National Water Commission** 

### **Ian Hammerton**

Recycled Water Development, Sydney Water

### Vishal Ahuja

Partner, Mallesons Stephen Jaques

### **Peter Paradise**

Partner, Freehills

### **Nick Thomas**

Partner, Clayton Utz

### **Grant Parker**

Partner, Holding Redlich

### **Paul Deschamps**

Partner, Herbert Geer

### **Charmian Barton**

Partner, DLA Phillips Fox

### **Paul Vergotis**

Senior Associate, DLA Phillips Fox

Early Bird Discount expires 9 July 2010



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# Water 2010 Summit

Registration 8.30

8.45 **Opening and welcome** 

### REGULATION OF RURAL WATER ENTITLEMENTS

#### 9.00 Update on trade volumes, prices and trends in the **National Water Initiative**

The trade of water entitlements doubled last year to \$2.8 billion and given the protracted drought in southern connected Murray-Darling Basin, this major market has continued to grow. With the water entitlement trade in NSW representing 71% of the total national entitlement trade by volume, Departments, Councils and private sector participants are in an informed position to forecast change in the efficiency and effectiveness of water markets.

- Access entitlements and water allocations in theory and practice
- Observations on the strengths and weaknesses of water-sharing
- Where to from here for the institutional, legislative and administrative arrangements that enable water trade

Will Fargher, GM, Water Markets & Efficiency Group, National Water Commission

### **URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### 9.45 Sydney Water recycling, desalination, water efficiency and dam management

Dams, recycling, desalination and water efficiency are the four major parts of the Metropolitan Water Plan, the NSW Government's long-term plan to secure Sydney's water future. These measures, combined with the adaptive management approach of the Plan involves opportunities and priorities fro the networking and development of water supply in and around Sydney.

This session provides informed insight on the projects and plans underway, as well as the projected needs and targets that take climate change, water reuse and efficiency innovations into account.

- New water sources, including recycling and desalination
- Existing and planned recycling projects for the private sector; technology and processes for consideration
- Impacts and opportunities for water efficiency in businesses and households
- Pressure points: Sydney Water's network of pipes & leak reduction

**Ian Hammerton,** Strategist – Recycled Water Development, Sydney Water

10.30 Morning tea

#### **MAJOR PROJECT DEBRIEF** 10.50

### Project and infrastructure drivers of recycled water in Sydney

Sydney Water has entered into a ground breaking recycled water project with Jemena (formerly Alinta). This \$200 million project will supply recycled water to industrial companies in Sydney centred on the Rosehill/Camellia area.

With Jemena as the asset owners of the network and treatment plant. Sydney Water will be the retailer and customer manager. **Agility** will be responsible for network management, operations and development, while Veolia Water will manage the water and wastewater technology and operations.

Attend to receive a project briefing on:

- The structure of the project
- The funding and allocation of risk
- Commercial drivers of the deal

John Shirbin, Partner, Clayton Utz

#### 11.40 Regulatory and commercial lessons from introducing competition in NSW water

Since August 2008 the new licensing and access regime in the Water Industry Competition Act 2006 gives private sector third parties the opportunity to become new service providers of water in NSW. What has been the experience in the last two years? What issues are faced by developers, operators, retailers and financiers in the water industry to provide reticulated drinking water, recycled water and sewerage services?

This session provides an overview of the following:

- Licensing regime and obligations on private-sector participants
- Issues with obtaining licences
- Structuring of licences
- Overview of current licensed projects
- Obtaining access process and problems
- Does the Act meet its objectives? regulatory issues for projects

Vishal Ahuia. Partner. Mallesons Stephen Jaques

#### 12.30 Critical contract and tender tips for water works

Sydney Water as Australia's largest water utility has an area of operations covering 12,700 km2 with assets that have a replacement value of more than \$20 billion and capital expenditure program of about \$1.2 billion per annum (2008-09). The competitiveness of contractors to compete for works contracts spanning months to decades and millions of dollars starts and often ends with the tender documentation.

This session is organised to provide insight and guidance on:

- Tendering traps in common infrastructure projects
- An informed overview of tender documentation methodologies
- Key tips for responding to an invitation to tender
- Common commercial contract issues that can be avoided
- Covering claims, disputes and dispute resolution

Peter Paradise. Partner. Freehills



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### 16 August 2010 Crowne Plaze Darling Harbour, Sydney

### 1.00 Networking lunch

1.45

### WASTEWATER, USE & REUSE PROJECTS

### MAJOR PROJECT DEBRIEF

## The operation of water legislation on development applications

Minimising the consumption of mains water and maximising the recycling of treated wastewater is a key aspect of Green commercial building design, which focuses on the efficient use of energy, lighting, water and material.

Recycling sewage understandably requires a certain level of regulation, given the risks to health and environment when not treated or recycled properly. Receive a project briefing on how to onsite wastewater and sewage treatment was incorporated into an approved development application by:

- Looking at the design, construction and operation of an internal treatment plant: what passed and what wouldn't
- Assessment and approval hurdles for black water treatment in green buildings
- Critical considerations and requirements for ongoing operation and compliance

Nick Thomas, Partner, Clayton Utz

## 2.15 Practical legal issues: sewer mining and operating under WICA

The access and licensing regime introduced by the *Water Industry Competition Act 2006* raises many practical legal issues for **project proponents and licensees**.

Obtaining the relevant WICA licenses is only one issue. Other issues include effective pricing regimes, property law issues and last resort arrangements.

This session will cover these practical legal issues along with a consideration of **contractual and liability** issues relating to sewer mining.

Grant Parker, Partner, Holding Redlich

### 2.45 Afternoon tea

3.00

### **MAJOR PROJECT DEBRIEF**

### **Water treatment works at Sydney Airport**

Therbert Geer assisted with the preparation of the contract documentation for the project including the primary design, construct, operation, and maintenance agreement and the separate agreement for the installation of recycled cold water reticulation.

Project challenges included a constricted site for land, relatively new membrane technology, requirements of authorities and restricted access. Take an inside look at the structure of the deal and how issues were addressed.

Paul Deschamps, Partner, Herbert Geer

### LITIGATION & LIABILITY UPDATE

### 3.45 Managing the risks associated with land contamination

There are major direct costs of dealing with land and groundwater contamination, and owners, occupiers or managers of land may find themselves liable for contamination where they previously has no responsibility.

Site contamination presents both valuation and liability risks to businesses either selling or purchasing land. Understand liability and obligations attached to sellers, and receive tips for due diligence as buyers.

This session provides clarification on:

- Questions of liability; obligations of those who ought to have been aware
- Instances of past and present occupiers being responsible for contamination
- Due diligence vs liabilities for off-loading potentially contaminated sites
- Contamination deemed significant enough by the EPA to warrant regulation
- The implications for producers of trade waste and handlers of wastewater
- Intersections between planning law and the contamination of land manage; sepp number 55-remediation of land state environment

Charmian Barton, Partner, DLA Phillips Fox

### 4.20 Developments in Australia water-based litigation

Water-based litigation is focusing on the construction of water structures, the impacts of development on the water environment, the impact of the water environment on development and the sustainable use of water resources.

Now is the time to update on responding to third party objections, appealing against conditions of development approvals, and advising clients on site contamination and remediation strategies.

Paul Vergotis, Senior Associate, DLA Phillips Fox

### 4.50 Closing comments

### 5.00 Conference close

### Who should attend?

- Property, Planning & Environment practitioners
- Major Projects, Construction & Infrastructure experts
- Council, Company & water industry executives
- Local and State Government land authorities
- Energy & Environment advisors

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Event date & venue

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