

Annual Report

1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011

Letter of compliance

The Honourable Simon Finn, MP Minister for Government Services, Building Industry and Information Communication Technology Level 7, 80 George Street Brisbane Qld 4000 Brisbane

20th September 2011

Dear Minister

I am pleased to present the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland Annual Report on the administration of the Professional Engineers Act (2002) for the financial year ended 30 June 2011.

I certify that this Annual Report complies with:

- the prescribed requirements of the Financial Accountability Act 2009 and the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009, and
- the detailed requirements set out in the Annual Report Requirements for Queensland Government Agencies.

Yours faithfully

Professor Elizabeth Taylor, AO Chair

Part A

Communication objective

This Annual Report provides information about the Board of Professional Engineers' financial and non-financial performance for 2010/11.

This report has been prepared for the Minister to submit to Parliament. It has also been prepared to meet the needs of stakeholders including the commonwealth and local governments, industry and business associations, community groups, and also staff.

The Queensland Government is committed to providing accessible services to Queenslanders from all culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. If you have difficulty understanding this annual report, you can contact us on (07) 3224 6032 and an interpreter will be arranged to effectively communicate the report to you.

The action taken during the reporting period complies with Section 23 and Schedule of the *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*.

In accordance with the *Public Records Act 2002*, the Board of Professional Engineers uses record keeping best practices to identify, capture and maintain complete and accurate records which are retained in an accessible and useable format that preserves the evidential integrity of those records for as long as they are required.

Further copies of this report are available by contacting the Board on (07) 3224 6032, or on the Board's website at www.bpeq.qld.gov.au

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Part B

Financial statements

The Board

The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland was established by the *Professional Engineers Act 1929*. The *Professional Engineers Act 2002* (the Act) is the current legislation.

Section 3 of the Act describes the main objects of the Act as:

- (a) to protect the public by ensuring professional engineering services are provided by a registered professional engineer in a professional and competent way;
- (b) to maintain public confidence in the standard of services provided by registered professional engineers; and
- to uphold the standards of practice of registered professional engineers.

Section 4 of the Act explains that the main objects are to be achieved primarily by:

- (a) providing for the registration of individuals as registered professional engineers under this Act;
- (b) providing for the monitoring and enforcement of compliance with this Act;
- (c) imposing obligations on persons about the practice of engineering;
- (d) establishing the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland.

Section 80 of the Act describes the functions of the Board as follows:

- (a) to assess applications made to it under this Act;
- (b) to register persons who are eligible for registration and issue certificates of registration;
- (c) to conduct, or authorise investigations about the professional conduct of registered professional engineers and contraventions of this Act;
- (d) to keep the Register;

- (e) to advise the Minister about:
 - eligibility requirements for persons applying for registration, or renewal or restoration of registration;
 - (ii) the suitability of entities to be assessment entities; and
 - (iii) the operation of this Act in its application to the practice of engineering;
- (f) to review the eligibility requirements mentioned in paragraph (e)(i);
- (g) to perform other functions given to the Board under this or another Act;
- (h) to perform a function incidental to a function mentioned in paragraphs(a) to (g).

The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland does not have any sub-committees or similar sub-bodies.

Structure

The Board consists of a chair and six members appointed by the Governor in Council. There is a Registrar of the Board who is responsible for managing the administrative affairs of the Board.

Membership

The Members of the Board at 30 June 2011 are:

Chair

Prof Elizabeth Taylor AO BE LLB (Hons) FIEAust CPEng FAICD
Rockhampton/Sydney
Academic representative from a school of engineering in Queensland

Deputy chair

Mr Geoff Haigh RFD MBA BE(Civil) BEcon FIE (Aust) RPEQ CPEng
Kenmore
Representative of Engineers Australia

Members

Mrs Christine Brindley (nee Stevenson) BE(Civil) RPEQ Lake Placid, Cairns Representative of regional engineers Mr Greg McLean BApSc(Building) FAIB Northgate

Representative of the construction industry

Mr Michael Marley BE MEngSc HonFIEAust FAICD RPEQ

Indooroopilly

Representative of registered professional engineers

Ms Carolyn Mason BEcon BA (Hons) FAICD FAIM FIPAA

Ashgrove

Representative of consumers

Mr Charles Ware BA LLB (Hons) LLM MBus(Pub Mgt) FAICD Yeppoon Representative of the legal profession

Registrar

Ms Clare Murray LLB The Mansions, Brisbane

Meetings

The Board meets monthly (except April and September) to carry out the functions of the Board as described in s.80 of the Act.

The Board met nine times during the financial year. Attendance and fees are shown in the following table:

	No.	No. eligible	Fees
	attended	to attend	\$
Prof E Taylor	8	9	8,318
Mr G Haigh	8	9	3,522
Mr M Marley	5	9	2,226
Mrs C Brindley	9	9	4,118
Mr C Ware	9	9	4,785
Mr G McLean	9	9	3,284
Ms C Mason	7	9	3,172

There has been no overseas travel undertaken on behalf of the Board by Board members during the year. Travel has been for attendance at Board meetings in Brisbane, for workshops relating to the review of the Code of Practice, and the Registrar has conducted meetings and presentations in regional Queensland and interstate.

Business

The business of the Board is carried out by the Registrar, Ms Clare Murray. Ms Murray is assisted by an Assistant Registrar, a Senior Finance Officer and an Administration Assistant.

Business is conducted from offices at The Mansions, Level 1, 40 George Street, Brisbane.

External audit

The Board is audited annually by the Queensland Audit Office. An Independent Audit Report from the Auditor-General of Queensland forms part of the financial statements included in the Annual Report.

Finance

The Act requires all costs of the Queensland Government associated with the regulation of engineers, including the Board's costs of administration of the Act, to be met by fees levied on registrants under the Act.

The major influence on the Board's financial position is the number of complaints in any given year that require investigation and disciplinary action. Based on historical patterns for the last few years, at present the fees are adequate to maintain the financial viability of the Board. This will enable the Board to meet its responsibilities, to remain self-funded, to act independently, impartially, and in the public's interest.

Performance

Objective 1

to protect the public by ensuring professional engineering services are provided by a registered professional engineer in a professional and competent way.

Comment

The development of the Code of Practice, documentation of the processes and procedures of the Board's activities and development of policies has provided a robust quality system for the registration of professional engineers and the management of complaints about registered professional engineers.

The approval of three assessment entities and the development of an assurance system, including independent review, to validate the quality of the Assessment Entities are now in place.

The Board has implemented compulsory continuing professional development (CPD) to ensure the competencies of registered professional engineers remain current.

Performance

The Board is confident the public can be assured of the competence of registered professional engineers generally.

Conclusion

The objective is appropriate and the Board has met objective 1.

Objective 2

to maintain public confidence in the standard of services provided by registered professional engineers.

Comment

The Board initiates disciplinary action against registered engineers in response to complaints.

The Board initiates disciplinary action against unregistered persons providing professional engineering services.

This activity is initiated on the basis of a formal complaint process as the Board does not have the resources to pro-actively achieve this goal.

Performance

The Board has referred unsatisfactory conduct of registered persons to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) for hearings. From the time an application to hear disciplinary charges is lodged in the QCAT, the Board makes it clear to the registered person how it views the gravity of the charge and what outcomes it is seeking - whether it be deregistration, fines and/or costs. Where possible consent orders are agreed to with the registered person and submitted to the QCAT for ratification. This avoids the unnecessary legal costs on both sides, of preparing cases and presenting them to the QCAT.

Conclusion

The objective is appropriate and the Board has met objective 2.

Objective 3

to uphold the standards of practice of registered professional engineers.

Comment

The Board has a Code of Practice for registered professional engineers and has developed fitness to practice standards that must be met before applications for renewal of registration are approved annually. These initiatives have strengthened the Board's capability to meet this objective.

The requirement for CPD and the audit of registered professional engineers has been developed and will assist the Board in the meeting of objective three.

Performance

The Board's work within its resource constraints has been satisfactory.

Conclusion

The objective is appropriate and the Board has met objective 3.

Registration

Operations 2010/11

The following table details the registration activity of the Board over the last four years.

	2010/11	2009/10	2008/09	2007/08
New Registrations	954	547	742	742
Reinstatement	159	220	269	303
Disqualification	0	(1)	0	0
Removals	(82)	(511)	(470)	(547)
TOTAL	7619	6588	6333	5792

Qualifications for registration legislative requirements

Under section 9 of the Act, an applicant for registration is eligible for registration only if:

- (a) the applicant is qualified, under section 10 of the Act, for registration; and
- (b) the Board considers the applicant is fit to practise as a registered professional engineer.

The registration scheme is a co-regulatory approach involving the joint administration by the professional engineering bodies and the Board as a statutory governing body. The registration process is consistent with national and international standards for the recognition of professional engineers.

Section 10 of the Act provides that an applicant for registration is qualified for registration in an area of engineering if the applicant has the qualifications and competencies provided for under the assessment scheme of a professional engineering body which has been approved by the Minister.

The three approved assessment schemes currently provide assessment for registration in the following general areas of engineering:

Aerospace Biomedical Building Services Chemical Electrical

Environmental Management
Marine Mechanical
Naval Architecture Structural
Mining Metallurgical

Geotechnical/Geological

Information, Telecommunications and Electronics

Fire Engineering

The approved assessment schemes provide assessment for registration in the following specific areas of engineering:

Fire Safety
Heritage and Conservation
In-service Inspection of Amusement Rides
and Devices
Pressure Equipment Design Verification
Sub-divisional Geotechnics

The Board continues to monitor the effectiveness and timeliness of the assessment process as the numbers of assessments continue to grow.

Fitness to Practise

The Board has a key role in assessing an individual's Fitness to Practise. The Fitness to Practise issues include criminal records, health assessments and insolvency issues. Under the renewal process a declaration from the Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland (RPEQ) is required on an annual basis to satisfy the Board that the RPEQ is eligible for renewal of their registration. Fitness to Practise is also a component of assessment for new applications for registration received by the Board.

Continued competency

The Board has developed CPD requirements in collaboration with approved Assessment Entities. This will require RPEQs to demonstrate continued competency before registration will be renewed. An audit program of RPEQs has been developed and will commence in the coming year to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act.

Publication of the register

The full Register of Registered Professional Engineers of Queensland (both past and present) is available for inspection at the Board's office. A register of currently registered professional engineers can be viewed online at www.bpeq.qld.gov.au

Information about the status of an RPEQ may be confirmed by telephone, fax, or email enquiry to the Board's office.

Disciplinary activities

The Act gives RPEQs the exclusive right to provide professional engineering services in Queensland. In return for this right, RPEQs have the responsibility to practise ethically within their area of competence. The Board has a complaints mechanism which allows aggrieved persons to lodge a complaint with the Board. Under the Act, information about the type of conduct the Board considers could give rise to a complaint, and how a person may make a complaint are required to be kept available for inspection by members of the public at the Board's office. It is also available on the Board's website.

Provided the complaints are not trivial, frivolous or vexatious, the Board has the responsibility to consider whether to commence an investigation of the complaint. The Board also has the responsibility to consider whether to investigate offences against the Act including false claims regarding registration.

Complaints

During the 2010/11 financial year, the Board received 36 written complaints regarding the practice of engineering. They related to both the conduct of RPEQs (26) and unregistered engineering practice (10).

Of the ten complaints about unregistered practise during the year:

- one related to a previously registered professional engineer;
- nine related to persons providing professional engineering services who have never been registered.

Of the 36 new complaints received, the Board decided that:

- 10 were investigated;
- 21 complaints were dismissed during this period – 13 were on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence for disciplining the engineer or the issue was outside the jurisdiction of the Board; eight were dismissed prior to investigation or following investigation as the Board felt that evidence showed that the engineer had not committed an offence under the Act; and
- five matters remain undecided at this time.

During the year, the Board investigated 19 complaints; 10 from this financial year and nine which were still under consideration from the previous year. The outcomes of these were:

- three were reprimanded or cautioned by the Board;
- four were subject to successful proceedings in the Magistrates Court for offences under the Act;
- three against RPEQs are with QCAT for disciplinary hearings;
- · seven are still under consideration;
- two had no further action taken against them.

Amendments to the Act and the Code of Practice

During 2010/11 the Board continued to focus on the implementation of amendments to the Act . The amendments to the Act now provide for a consistent registration system which is in line with national and international standards for the recognition of professional engineers.

The requirement for registration does not apply to all professional engineers working in Queensland. The Act requires that professional engineers providing "professional engineering services" be registered. However not all work undertaken by professional engineers is encapsulated within the definition of "professional engineering services". When undertaking activities which are not within the definition, registration is not required.

The Act does not require registration of professional engineers providing "professional engineering services" if they are directly supervised by a registered professional engineer. The changes to the Act strengthen the requirements for direct supervision.

The Code of Practice was revised from 1 July 2008 to provide guidance on the requirements of direct supervision.

In order to meet the objects of the Act, the Act has been structured to ensure the community is provided with current best practice in determining the appropriate level of professional competence required to provide safe and effective professional engineering services.

Community and professional expectations regarding what constitutes an appropriate level of professional competence to provide safe and effective professional services, and how professional competence should be authenticated, continue to change over time. The Board is working closely with the profession and other stakeholders to ensure that consistency in these standards is maintained across the profession.

Continuing registration requirements

The pilot program for CPD compliance is currently being administered by the Board in line with the Continuing Registration Requirements (CRR) Policy. The audit of engineers commenced from 1 July 2011.

Performance agreement

The Board has entered into a performance agreement with the Minister as required under section 99 of the Professional Engineers Act 2002, identifying the Board's strategic direction for the current financial year and the two following years. The performance agreement may include other matters relevant to the Board's functions and as agreed to by the Minister and the Board.

Communication

Review of the Code of Practice

The Board is required to undertake a review of the Code of Practice every three years. The 2011 review commenced in April and concluded with the final workshop in July 2011.

The role of the Code is to provide guidance to registered professional engineers as to appropriate professional conduct or practice. The Code of Practice is a statutory instrument and is approved under a regulation. It is also admissible in disciplinary proceedings of appropriate professional conduct or practice of a registered professional engineer.

To ensure a thorough consultation with RPEQs and key stakeholders within the engineering profession, the Board conducted workshops to review the Code of Practice Review in Brisbane, Cairns, Townsville, Rockhampton, Mackay, Roma, Mt Isa and Gladstone.

Presentations on the Act

A number of presentations were given by Board members and the Registrar during the year to various professional bodies and industry including, but not limited to:

Association of Professional Engineers,
Scientists & Managers, Australia (APESMA)
The Australasian Institute of Mining and
Metallurgy (The AusIMM)
Society of Petroleum Engineers
Engineers Australia
Institute of Public Works Engineering
Australia (IPWEA)
Queensland Resources Council (QRC)
Department of Transport and Main Roads
(DTMR)

Queensland Major Contractors Association (QMCA)

Department of Public Works (DPW) Consult Australia

Hatch

Engineers Australia Chairs Meeting Worley Parsons

Aurecon

Bowen Basin Underground Geotechnical Engineers

Emerging Leaders Conference – AusIMM IPWEA South East Conference BHP Billiton – Cannington Mines

Presentations on the Professional Engineers Act and the Review of The Code of Practice were conducted in conjunction with The AusIMM and Engineers Australia at:

- Cairns
- Charters Towers
- Gladstone
- Mackay
- Mt Isa
- Rockhampton
- Toowoomba
- Townsville

The Board members and Registrar accepted numerous invitations from companies and other key industry stakeholders to conduct information sessions and workshops to discuss the Professional Engineers Act throughout Australia.

Some of these included:

XStrata

Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR)

Australian Defence Force

DEEDI

Stanwell

Metalliferous Safety and Health Committee Leightons

Brisbane City Council (BCC)

Origin Energy

BMA Group (BMA)

AMEC Minproc

The Board provides an electronic newsletter to RPEQs and has continued with the submission of articles in the newsletters of IPWEA, APESMA and Engineers Australia.

Statement of affairs under the *Right to Information Act 2009*

Description of the Board's structure and functions

The Act provides for the registration of professional engineers. It provides mechanisms for the investigation of complaints regarding the conduct of registered professional engineers. It prohibits persons who are not registered under the Act from undertaking professional engineering services except for individuals who practice under the supervision of registered professional engineers.

The Act is administered by the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland. The Board is required to act independently, impartially and in the public interest. The Minister responsible, the Minister for Government Services, Building Industry and Information Communication Technology may give the Board a written direction about the performance of the Board's functions or exercise of its powers if satisfied that it is necessary to give a direction in the public interest.

How the Board affects the community

The operations of the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland affect the community in that persons other than registered professional engineers cannot provide professional engineering services.

Engineers are responsible for the integrity and design of buildings and other structures, essential services such as power, water supply and sewerage, and numerous consumer items essential to everyday living. The process of allowing only qualified people to offer professional engineering services has the benefit of minimising the potential for substandard practice and the risk to public health and safety.

Arrangement for public participation

The Act provides for procedures for the public to make complaints against registered professional engineers and unregistered persons undertaking professional engineering work.

Categories of documents

The Board maintains the following categories of documents:

- Personal registration files of natural persons;
- Files on formerly registered professional engineering companies;
- Files on formerly registered professional engineering units;
- Register of registered professional engineers;
- Minutes of Board meetings;
- Files on the case management of complaints;
- Files on the case management of investigations;
- Files on the case management of prosecutions;
- · Files on Board activities:
- General files: and
- Policies of the Board.

Right to Information procedures and contact details

The Registrar of the Board is the contact person for Right to Information matters and is available to assist applicants seeking information from the Board.

Applications can be addressed to:

The Registrar
Board of Professional Engineers of
Queensland
PO Box 15213
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Or delivered in person to:

Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland First Floor, The Mansions 40 George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

Literature available by way of subscription services or free mailing lists

The Board does not make literature available by way of subscription services or free mailing lists.

Access to documents

Facilities for examining documents and obtaining copies are available from the Board's office at The Mansions, First Floor, 40 George Street, Brisbane.

The Register of RPEQs is open for inspection, free of charge, at the Board's office by members of the public during ordinary office hours. A person may obtain a copy of the Register or a part of it, on payment of the prescribed fee of \$32.30 plus \$1.95 for each page.

Boards, councils, committees and other bodies

There are no Boards, committees or other bodies constituted by two or more persons that are a part of or that have been established for the purpose of advising the Board.

Whistleblowers Protection Act 1994

The Whistleblowers Protection Act 1994 has been repealed and replaced with the Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010 which came into effect on 1 January 2011.

There have been no public interest disclosures during 2010/11 under either Act.

Carer's (Recognition) Act 2008

The Carer's (Recognition) Act 2008 formally recognises carers and the important contribution they make to the people they care for and to the community more generally.

The Board acknowledges its responsibility under this Act.

Matters to be included in the annual report

In accordance with section 107 of the Act, the Board states that:

- (a) no ministerial direction was given to the Board under section 98(1) of the Act during the year;
- (b) the Board's activities during the year were consistent with its performance agreement; and
- (c) details about disciplinary proceedings or proceedings for a contravention of the Act, started by the Board are set out on page eight.

Publication of the annual report

Copies of the Annual Report are available on the website, distributed annually to a number of key stakeholders and are available from the Board's office at The Mansions, First Floor, 40 George Street, Brisbane.

Summary

The Board continues to develop best practice in the regulation of the engineering profession. The underpinning approach of co-regulation informs the strategies developed to implement the Act, and the cost neutral requirement informs the financial arrangements. The objectives of protecting the public, maintaining public confidence and upholding standards through strategic use of available resources, remain the focus of the Board's activities.

Professor Elizabeth Taylor, AO Chair Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland

Part B

THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS OF QUEENSLAND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 JUNE 2011

THE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS OF QUEENSLAND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2010-11

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Management Certificate

General Information

These financial statements cover the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland.

The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland is a Queensland Government Statutory Body established under the *Professional Engineers Act 1929*.

The head office and principal place of business of the Board is:

Level 1, The Mansions

40 George Street

Brisbane QLD 4000

A description of the nature of the department's operations and its principal activities is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Amounts shown in these financial statements may not add to the correct sub-totals or totals due to rounding.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Income from Continuing Operations	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
Fees and Other Receipts	2	1,330,851	1,210,184
Interest Revenue	3	46,157	28,799
Other Revenue	4	446	1,254
Total Revenue	_	1,330,851	1,240,237
Gain on Sale of Assets			180
Total Income from Continuing Operations	_	1,377,454	1,240,417
Expenses from Continuing Operations			
Administrative Expenses	5	326,585	301,564
Depreciation		1,436	472
Employee Expenses	6	385,536	351,695
Investigation & Legal Expenses		595,441	424,205
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		1,308,998	1,077,936
	· _		
Operating Result from Continuing Operations		68,456	162,481
Other Comprehensive Income			
Total Comprehensive Income		68,456	162,481



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

	Notes	2011	2010
		\$	\$
Current Assets	_		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7	1,366,600	1,186,720
Trade and Other Receivables	8	38,016	38,731
Other Assets	9	11,129	8,412
Total Current Assets		1,415,745	1,233,863
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	10	5,273	6,710
Total Non Current Assets	_	5,273	6,710
Total Assets		1,421,018	1,240,573
Current Liabilities			
Bank Overdraft	7		41,549
Trade and Other Payables	11	9,784	5,260
Unearned Revenue	12	1,223,061	1,077,990
Accrued Expenses	13	33,334	30,000
Tax Liabilities	14	2,491	1,882
Total Current Liabilities		1,268,670	1,156,681
Total Liabilities		1,268,670	1,156,681
NET ASSETS	_	152,348	83,892
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		152,348	83,892
TOTAL EQUITY		152,348	83,892



STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Notes	\$
Balance as at 1 July 2009		(78,589)
Operating Result from Continuing Operations Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		162,481
Balance as at 30 June 2010		83,892
Balance as at 1 July 2010		83,892
Operating Result from Continuing Operations Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		68,456 -
Balance as at 30 June 2011		152,348



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	Notes	2011	2010
		\$	\$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Inflows:			
Fees and Other Receipts		1,444,864	1,233,103
Penalties and Costs		33,194	65,397
Interest Revenue		46,330	28,799
GST Collected on Sales		62	121
GST Collected from ATO		116,516	92,461
Outflows:			
Employee Expenses		380,606	347,354
Board Member Expenses		63,532	44,401
Administrative Expenses		234,379	239,220
Investigations/Hearings/Legal Expenses		587,413	443,995
Other		29,272	11,080
GST Paid on Purchases		124,337	105,258
Net Cash provided by/(used in) Operating		-	
Activities		221,427	228,573
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Inflows:		· -	-
Outflows:		-	
Net Cash provided by/(used in) Financing			
Activities			-
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Inflows:			100
Sale of Fixed Assets		-· 	180
0.4%			
Outflows:			7.400
Payments for Fixed Assets			7,182
Net Cash provided by/(used in) Investing Activities			(7,002)
Activities			(7,002)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash			
Equivalents		221,427	221,571
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		1,145,173	923,602
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Cash at the end of the financial year		1,366,600	1,145,173



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

Objectives of the Board

The objectives of the Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland are to protect the public by ensuring professional engineering services are provided by a registered professional engineer in a professional and competent way, to maintain public confidence in the standard of services provided by registered professional engineers, and to uphold the standards of practice of registered professional engineers.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting / Statement of Compliance

The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland has prepared these financial statements in compliance with section 43 of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009*.

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements, and have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations. In addition, the financial statements comply with Treasury's Minimum Reporting Requirements for the year ending 30 June 2011, and other authoritative pronouncements.

(b) The Reporting Entity

The financial report covers The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland as an individual entity.

(c) Revenue Recognition

Revenue from renewal fees is recognised on an accrual basis. All other fees including registration fees are recognised in the period received.

These fees are levied in accordance with *Professional Engineers Amendment Regulation (No.1) 2007.* Under this legislation, the registration period finishes at 30 June each year. Registrants who do not renew their registration are removed from the Board's register.

Revenue from interest and fines are recognised on an accrual basis.

(d) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For financial reporting purposes, cash includes all cash at bank, on hand and deposits at call with financial institutions.

(e) Receivables

Receivables are recognised at the nominal amounts due at the time of recognition. The collectability of receivables is assessed periodically with provision being made for impairment.

No debts were written off this financial year.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

(f) Acquisition of Assets

Actual cost is used for the initial recording of all non-current asset acquisitions. Cost is determined as the value given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including all other cost incurred in getting the assets ready for use.

(g) Property, Plant and Equipment

All items of plant and equipment with a cost or other value in excess of \$5,000 and computer software in excess of the value of \$2,000 are recognised for financial reporting purposes in the year of acquisition.

Items with a lesser value are expensed in the year of acquisition.

(h) Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment have been recorded in the financial report at cost less depreciation. Depreciation on all property, plant and equipment has been calculated on a straight line basis at rates based on an estimated useful life of the various classes of asset.

(i) Payables

Trade creditors are recognised upon receipt of the goods and services ordered at the amount to be paid in the future for goods and services received. The amounts are non-interest bearing and are normally paid within the terms stated on the creditor's invoice.

(j) Financial Instruments

Recognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when the Board becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are classified and measured as follows:

- Cash and cash equivalents held at fair value through profit and loss
- Receivables held at amortised cost
- Payables held at amortised cost
- Repayable advances held at amortised cost.

The Board does not enter transactions for speculative purposes, nor for hedging. Apart from cash and cash equivalents, the Board holds no financial assets classified at fair value through profit and loss.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

(k) Employee Benefits

Employer superannuation contributions, annual leave levies and long service leave levies are regarded as employee benefits.

Payroll tax and work cover are a consequence of employing employees, but are not counted in an employee's total remuneration package. They are not employee benefits and are recognised separately as employee related expenses.

The Registrar, Assistant Registrar and Administration Officer are employed by the Board on a full-time basis. The Senior Finance Officer is employed by the Board on a permanent part-time basis. All four positions are paid by the Department of Public Works (therefore, all benefits are recognised in the Department of Public Works' financial statements), with all positions being reimbursed by the Board on a monthly basis. The balance of annual leave and long service leave of the four officers reported in the accounts of the Department of Public Works at 30 June 2011 was \$41,128 and \$8,100 respectively.

(I) Prepayments and Insurance

Professional Insurance and Insurance for Directors and Officers is paid annually in advance in April each year. The pre-paid component is recorded as a current asset. Postage is also pre-paid and the credit remaining from postage unspent is recorded as a current asset.

(m) Taxation

The Board is a State Body as defined under the *Taxation Administration Act 2001* QLD and is exempt from Commonwealth taxation with the exception of the Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and Goods and Services Tax (GST).

The Board's income from fees is exempt from GST in accordance with Division 81 Written Determination. Input tax credits receivable and GST payable on income from sources other than fees from/to the Australian Tax Office are recognised and accrued.

(n) Rounding and Comparatives

Amounts included in the financial statements are in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Comparative information has been restated where necessary to be consistent with disclosures in the current reporting period.

(o) Going Concern

This financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis and the Board will be able to meet its debts as and when they fall due.

(p)Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

(q) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The Board evaluates estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the entity.

Key Estimates

Impairment

The Board assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluation of conditions and events specific to the Board that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions. No impairment was considered by the Board to exist in the current year.

	2011 \$	2010 \$
2. Fees and Other Receipts		
Application Fees	44,689	24,885
Registration Fees	128,871	73,267
Renewal Fees	1,089,217	1,009,622
Restoration & Processing Fees	34,880	47,429
Penalties and Costs	33,194	54,981
Total	1,330,851	1,210,184
3. Interest Revenue:		
Cheque Account	16	9
Cash Management	46,141	28,790
Total	46,157	28,799
4. Other Revenue:		
Cost Recoveries	320	996
Miscellaneous Income	126	258
Total	446	1,254



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
5. Administrative Expenses:		
	40.400	40.000
Accounting & Audit Fees	13,432	10,888
Advertising	6,101	36,565
Bank Charges	17,712	13,853
Code of Practice Review	20,664	-
Members Expenses	68,958	56,913
Rent/Electricity/Car Parking	42,112	40,336
Office Maintenance	4,829	100
Telephone	5,575	3,786
Printing & Stationery	27,278	22,529
Postage & Couriers	12,220	9,042
Insurance	11,829	11,450
System Development	2,128	8,970
Conferences / Travel	22,247	19,555
Cost Recoveries	310	988
Subscriptions	2,538	2,355
Office Systems (includes computer maintenance)	68,067	35,389
Sundry Assets < \$5000	-	28,845
Other	585	-
Total	326,585	301,564
6. Employee expenses:		
Salaries and wages	383,530	350,547
Superannuation	2,006	1,148
Total	385,536	351,695

Executive Remuneration 1 July 2010 - 30 June 2011

Position		n Employee nefits	Long Term Employee Benefits	Post Employment Benefits	Termination Benefits	Total Remuneration
	Base \$'000	Non- Monetary Benefits \$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Registrar	104,847	-	2,574	12,928	-	120,350
Total Remuneration	104,847	-	2,574	12,928	_	120,350



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

6. Employee expenses (continued):

Executive Remuneration 1 July 2009 – 30 June 2010

Position		m Employee nefits	Long Term Employee Benefits	Post Employment Benefits	Termination Benefits	Total Remuneration
	Base \$'000	Non- Monetary Benefits \$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Registrar	103,924	-	2,430	12,647	-	119,002
Total Remuneration	103,924	, -	2,430	12,647	-	119,002

2011 2010

Number of Employees:

9

11,129

9

The names of the Board members who have held office during the financial year are:

Prof Elizabeth Taylor Mr Charles Ware Mr Geoffrey Haigh

Total

Mr Gregory McLean Ms Carolyn Mason Ms Christine Stevenson Mr William Marley

2011 2010 \$ \$ 7. Cash and Cash Equivalents Cash at bank 159,485 Bank Overdraft (41,549)Petty Cash 200 200 Imprest account 211 66 QTC Investment account 1,206,704 1,186,454 Total 1,366,600 1,145,171 8. Trade and Other Receivables Receivables 1,531 GST Receivable 37,200 38,016 Total 38,016 38,731 9. Other Assets Insurance prepayment 11,129 8,412



8,412

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
10. Property, Plant and Equipment		
Computer Equipment	7,182	7,182
Accumulated Depreciation - Computer Equipment	(1,909)	(472)
Total	5,273	6,710
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	5,273	6,710
Movements Schedule		
Computer Equipment		
Carrying amount at 1 July	6,710	-
Acquisitions	-	7,182
Depreciation	(1,437)	(472)
Carrying amount at 30 June	5,273	6,710
11. Trade and Other Payables		
Trade Creditors	735	204
Other Creditors	9,049	5,056
Total	9,784	5,260
12. Unearned Revenue		
Renewal fees	1,223,061	1,077,990
Total	1,223,061	1,077,990
13. Accrued Expenses		
Accrued Telephone	594	-
Accrued Wages	32,740	30,000
Total =	33,334	30,000
14. Other Current Liabilities		
Tax Payable to ATO	2,491	1,882
Total	2,491	1,882



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

15. Reconciliation of Operating Surplus/(Deficit) to

Net Cash Provided by (Used in) operating activities

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Operating Profit/(Loss)	68,456	162,481
Depreciation	1,436	472
Gain on Sale of Fixed Asset	- -	(180)
Changes in Assets & Liabilities		
Decrease (increase) in Receivable	716	3,023
Decrease (increase) in Prepayments	(2,716)	370
Decrease (increase) in Employee Expenses payable	609	1,036
Increase (decrease) in Payables	4,523	(15,836)
Increase (decrease) in unearned revenue	145,070	74,541
Increase(decrease) in Accrued Expenses	3,333	2,664
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	221,427	228,571

16. Events Occurring after Reporting Date

There are no events occurring after the balance date that materially affect the financial statements at 30 June 2011.

17. Commitments for Expenditure

The Board had no capital commitments of a material nature at 30 June 2011.

Non-Cancellable Operating Lease

Commitments under operating leases at reporting date are exclusive of anticipated GST and are payable as follows:

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	46,045	24,714
Later than one year and not later than five years	85,694	.
Later than five years	-	
Total	131,739	24,714

The lease is for the business premises and is a non-cancellable lease with a 3 year term, with rent payable monthly in advance. Contingent rental provisions within the lease agreement require that the minimum lease payments can be increased by the CPI once a year, during the rent review on 1 May. An option exists to renew the lease at the end of the term, 30 April 2014, for one additional term of three years.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

18. Contingent Assets and Liabilities – Litigation in Process

Contingent Assets

As at 30 June 2011, the following cases were filed in the courts naming the State of Queensland acting through The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland as plaintiff

	2011	2010
	Number of Cases	Number of Cases
Supreme Court	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· -
Federal Court	1	-
Magistrates Court	2	-
QCAT	2	2
Total	5	2

Contingent Liabilities

As at 30 June 2011, the following cases were filed in the courts naming the State of Queensland acting through The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland as defendant

	2011	2010	
	Number of Cases	Number of Cases	
Supreme Court	1	-	
District Court	-	1	
Magistrates Court		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
QCAT	2	1	
Total	3	2	

It is not possible to make a reliable estimate of the final amount payable, if any, in respect of the litigation before the courts at this time.

19. Financial Risk Management

Categorisation of Financial Instruments

The Board's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with financial institutions, receivables, payables and unearned revenue.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

19. Financial Risk Management (cont)

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

Category	2011	2010
Financial assets	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	1,366,600	1,186,720
Receivables	38,016	38,731
Total	1,404,616	1,225,451
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost:		
Payables	45,609	37,142
Bank Overdraft	-	41,549
Total	45,609	78,691

Risk Management Strategy

The Board's overall risk management strategy is designed to meet its financial targets, whilst minimising potential effects on financial performance. Risk management policies are approved and reviewed by the Board on a regular basis. These include the credit risk policies and future cash flow requirements.

The Board did not have any derivative instruments at 30 June 2011.

Specific Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the Board is exposed to through its financial instruments are credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk.

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counterparties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss to the Board. The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the gross carrying amount of those assets inclusive of any provisions for impairment.

The following table represents the Board's maximum exposure to credit risk based on contractual amounts net of any allowances:

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Maximum Exposure to Credit Risk		
Financial Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,366,600	1,186,720
Receivables	38,016	38,731
Total	1,404,616	1,225,451



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

19. Financial Risk Management (cont)

(a) Credit Risk

The Board does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables under financial instruments entered into.

No collateral is held as security and no credit enhancements relate to financial assets held by the Board.

The Board manages credit risk through the use of a credit management strategy. This strategy aims to reduce the exposure to credit default by ensuring that the Board invests in secure assets, and monitors all funds owed on a timely basis. Exposure to credit risk is monitored on an ongoing basis.

No financial assets and financial liabilities have been offset and presented net in the Statement of Financial Position.

The method for calculating any provisional impairment for risk is based on past experience, current and expected changes in economic conditions and changes in client credit ratings.

Ageing of financial assets are disclosed in the following table:

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Receivables		
Not overdue	38,016	38,731

There are no impaired financial assets at balance date.

(b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the company might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations related to financial liabilities. The Board is exposed to liquidity risk in respect of its payables and repayable advance from the Department of Public Works.

The Board manages liquidity risk through the use of a liquidity management strategy. This strategy aims to reduce the exposure to liquidity risk by ensuring the Board has sufficient funds available to meet employee and supplier obligations at all times. This is achieved by ensuring that minimum levels of cash are held within the various bank accounts so as to match the expected duration of the various employee and supplier liabilities.

The following tables sets out the liquidity risk of financial liabilities held by the Board. It represents the contractual maturity of financial liabilities, calculated based on cash flows relating to the prepayment of the principal amount outstanding at balance date.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

19. Financial Risk Management (cont)

(b) Liquidity risk (continued)

Financial liabilities	2011	2010
Payables	\$	\$
Less than 1 year	45,609	37,142
Total	45,609	37,142
Bank Overdraft		
Less than 1 year		41,549
Total		41,549
Total financial liabilities		
Less than 1 year	45,609	78,691
Total	45,609	78,691

Cash flows realised from financial assets reflect management's expectation as to the timing of realisation. Actual timing may therefore differ from that disclosed. The timing of cash flows presented in the table to settle financial liabilities reflect the earliest contractual settlement dates.

Financial assets

Cash and cash equivalents

Less than 1 year	1,366,600	1,186,720
Total	1,366,600	1,186,720
Receivables		
Less than 1 year	38,016	38,731
Total	38,016	38,731
Total financial liabilities		
Less than 1 year	1,404,616	1,225,451
Total	1,404,616	1,225,451



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

19. Financial Risk Management (cont)

(c) Interest rate risk

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial assets and financial liabilities recognised at reporting date whereby a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of fixed rate financial instruments. The Board is also exposed to earnings volatility on floating rate instruments. Interest rate risk is managed through a balance between the QTC investment fund balance and operating bank account balances.

Interest rate sensitivity analysis

The following interest rate sensitivity analysis is based on a report similar to that which would be provided to management, depicting the outcome to profit and loss if interest rates would change by +/-1% from the year-end rates applicable to the Board's financial assets and liabilities. With all other variables held constant, the Board would have a surplus and equity movement of \$13,666 (2010: \$11,452). This is due to the Board's exposure to variable interest rates on cash deposited in interest bearing accounts.

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial assets and financial liabilities recognised at reporting date whereby a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of fixed rate financial instruments. The Board is also exposed to earnings volatility on floating rate instruments.

	2011 \$	2010 \$
Financial instruments		Ψ,
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,366,600	1,186,720
Bank Overdraft	-	(41,549)
Interest rate risk:		
-1% - Profit	(13,666)	(11,452)
-1% - Equity	(13,666)	(11,452)
+1% - Profit	13,666	11,452
+1% - Equity	13,666	11,452

(d) Fair value

The carrying amount of cash, cash equivalents, receivables, payables and repayable advances are short-term in nature and approximate their fair value so are not disclosed separately. Fair values are those amounts at which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.



CERTIFICATE OF THE BOARD OF

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS OF QUEENSLAND

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to section 62(1) of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* (the Act), relevant sections of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009* and other prescribed requirements.

In accordance with section 62(1)(b) of the Act we certify that in our opinion:

- a) The prescribed requirements for establishing and keeping the accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- b) The statements have been drawn up to present a true and fair view, in accordance with prescribed accounting standards, of the transactions of The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland for the financial year ended 30 June 2011 and of the financial position of the Board at the end of that year.

Professor E Taylor, AO Chairperson

Dated this 25th day of August, 2011.

K Mugray Registrar

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland

Report on the Financial Report

I have audited the accompanying financial report of The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2011, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and certificates given by the Chairperson and Registrar of The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland.

The Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with prescribed accounting requirements identified in the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* and the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009*, including compliance with Australian Accounting Standards. The Board's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. The audit was conducted in accordance with the *Auditor-General of Queensland Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit is planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control, other than in expressing an opinion on compliance with prescribed requirements. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report including any mandatory financial reporting requirements approved by the Treasurer for application in Queensland.

I believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independence

The Auditor-General Act 2009 promotes the independence of the Auditor-General and all authorised auditors. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Queensland public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament.

The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

Opinion

In accordance with s.40 of the Auditor-General Act 2009 -

- (a) I have received all the information and explanations which I have required; and
- (b) in my opinion
 - (i) the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
 - (ii) the financial report presents a true and fair view, in accordance with the prescribed accounting standards, of the transactions of The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland for the financial year 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 and of the financial position as at the end of that year.

Other Matters - Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Report

This auditor's report relates to the financial report of The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland for the year ended 30 June 2011. Where the financial report is included on The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland's website the Board is responsible for the integrity of The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland's website and I have not been engaged to report on the integrity of The Board of Professional Engineers of Queensland's website. The auditor's report refers only to the subject matter described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements or otherwise included with the financial report. If users of the financial report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information contained in this website version of the financial report.

These matters also relate to the presentation of the audited financial report in other electronic media including CD Rom.

John Welsh FCPA

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as Delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office Brisbane