



NEWSLETTER

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A WORD FROM THE REGISTRAR

Happy New Year and welcome to BPEQ's first e-news for 2017. The year ahead is expected to be busy for BPEQ, particularly the registration renewal period that commences 1 April.

In February, the first registration roadshow for 2017 will be in Mackay and Rockhampton where BPEQ staff will host seminars with councils, consultant engineer firms and other stakeholders. The seminars provide invaluable information and count as continuing professional development (CPD) for engineers; I encourage employers and managers to make contact with BPEQ to arrange a seminar for their workplace or team.

As part of a planned CPD review, BPEQ has released a [survey](#) for RPEQs and other stakeholders to better understand how the current CPD requirements work and how the system can be improved. The survey will be open until 10 February.

RPEQs also have the chance to shape a new state building plan. Announced by Minister for Housing and Public Works Mick de Brenni in late 2016, the [Queensland Building Plan discussion paper](#) covers a range of areas including a review of licencing and plumbing and drainage laws, the potential for a single state housing code and the sustainability of buildings. A consultation program will begin early this year.

Engineers Australia is once again searching for Australia's most innovative engineers. Engineers can nominate themselves or be nominated by others and they do not need to be members of Engineers Australia. Nominations are open to all engineers working in Australia and Australian engineers working overseas. Any technology, project or product mentioned must have been developed, commenced or completed during the period 2015-2017.

Innovative is undoubtedly one word used to describe Bechtel's Curtis Island LNG project that was awarded Construction Project of the Year earlier this month. The impressive engineering feat, involving RPEQs from Queensland and overseas, is one of the single biggest projects completed in this state. You can read more about the Curtis Island LNG project in this issue of the BPEQ e-news.

Also in this issue, we continue the discussion on BPEQ's complaint and investigation process.

We trust you enjoy and find the e-news useful and interesting; and please feel free to contact BPEQ at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au or call (07) 3198 0000 if we can be of assistance.

Kylie Mercer, Registrar





BECHTEL'S CURTIS ISLAND LNG PROJECT NAMED CONSTRUCTION PROJECT OF THE YEAR



The Curtis Island LNG project is one of the single biggest projects completed in Queensland.

S&P Global Platts has awarded Construction Project of the Year to Bechtel's Curtis Island LNG project at the Global Energy Awards.

The \$11 billion dollar three plant complex took six years to complete, with the engineering, construction and procurement program operating 24 hours a day across three global execution centres. At its peak, the project employed 30,000 people.

During construction the project consumed enough concrete to build seven Empire State Buildings, structural steel to build 13 Eiffel Towers and electrical cable to run the length of the Grand Canyon 11 times.

The capacity of the gas storage tanks is equivalent to 56 Olympic-size swimming pools, with annual gas production capacity estimated at 24.5 million metric tons.

Together, the plants will account for roughly eight percent of global LNG production.

REGISTRATION ROADSHOWS PLANNED FOR REGIONAL QUEENSLAND

BPEQ will once again take to the road in 2017 for its registration roadshows.

The roadshows feature seminars with engineers that discuss the key elements of the PE Act, the registration process and case studies.

BPEQ staff travelled to Ayr, Barcaldine, Charleville, Emerald, Roma, Toowoomba and Townsville in 2016.

This year BPEQ staff will visit regional centres including Bundaberg, Cairns, Gladstone, Gympie, Mackay, Mount Isa and Rockhampton.

BPEQ has proposed the following schedule for its 2017 registration roadshows:

- Mackay and Rockhampton – February 2017
- Mount Isa and surrounds – February 2017
- Gympie, Maryborough and Sunshine Coast – April 2017
- Cairns and surrounds – May 2017
- Longreach and surrounds – June 2017
- Beaudesert, Esk and Gatton – September 2017
- Bundaberg and Gladstone – October 2017

For more information on the registration roadshow or to schedule, a seminar contact BPEQ at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au or call (07) 3198 0000.



UNDERSTANDING BPEQ'S COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATION PROCESS

One of BPEQ's key functions is to conduct or authorise investigations about the professional conduct of RPEQs and contraventions of the *Professional Engineers Act 2002 (Qld) (PE Act)*.

BPEQ's disciplinary and compliance investigation processes help protect the public, maintain public confidence in RPEQs, and maintain the standard of practice of RPEQs.

This month the focus is on compliance, following on from the article on professional conduct contained in the November 2016 e-news.

COMPLIANCE

Notifications

Notifications about suspected contraventions of the PE Act flow from ordinary members of the public, government, industry, and the media. Most notifications are about suspected unregistered practice—that is, a person who is not a practising professional engineer who has carried out professional engineering services other than under the direct supervision of a responsible practising professional engineer. Less frequent, but still not uncommon, are notifications about non-RPEQs claiming or holding out to be RPEQs or using one or more of the protected titles “registered professional engineer”, “registered professional engineer of Queensland,” and “RPEQ.” Once BPEQ has been notified of a suspected contravention of the PE Act the situation will be assessed and clarified and a submission may be sought from the suspected offender. BPEQ will then decide: (1) whether it reasonably suspects an offence against the PE Act has been committed; and (2) if so, whether an investigation is warranted.

Own-motion investigations

As with the conduct of RPEQs, BPEQ is not constrained by the need to be notified of a suspected contravention of the PE Act. It can decide on its own motion to conduct or authorise an investigation as long as: (1) it reasonably suspects an offence against the PE Act has been committed; and (2) it considers an investigation is warranted.

Investigation process

Compliance investigations are conducted in the same way as professional conduct investigations, with the only difference being that the subject of the investigation is the suspected offence/s as opposed to the conduct of a RPEQ.

Post-investigation decisions

After an investigation is completed and BPEQ has considered the formal investigation report, BPEQ must make one or more of the following post-investigation decisions concerning a person:

1. start proceedings against the person to prosecute them for an offence/s against the PE Act;
2. enter into an undertaking, agreed with the person, about an aspect of the person's conduct;
3. caution or reprimand the person;
4. take no further action about the matter the subject of the investigation.

Which option/s is chosen is highly dependent on the findings of BPEQ's investigation.

Administrative actions

As with disciplinary investigations, the administrative decision options—undertaking, caution/reprimand, and no further action—are actioned by BPEQ itself. The particulars of all cautions and reprimands are recorded and if the person later becomes a RPEQ, the particulars of its decision are included on BPEQ's register of RPEQs with other particulars relevant to the person's registration. As with cautions or reprimands of RPEQs, BPEQ decisions to caution or reprimand are reviewable in the administrative review jurisdiction of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (**QCAT**). BPEQ does not have the power to impose financial penalties on persons for the commission of offences. That power is in the sole purview of the Magistrates Court of Queensland (**Court**).

Prosecutions

Prosecutions of offences against the PE Act are taken by BPEQ in the Magistrates Court of Queensland. The Court then has the role of deciding whether the person has committed the offences with which they are charged, to the criminal standard of proof—beyond reasonable doubt. If the Court finds the person guilty, it may impose a monetary penalty. The Court may also order the person to pay some or all of BPEQ's costs of the investigation, preparing for the disciplinary proceeding, and the proceeding itself. The Court's decisions may be published by BPEQ on its website for five years after the date of the finding of guilt, whether or not the Court records a conviction.



INFORMATION PRIVACY

Information obtained by BPEQ in performance of its investigative function is subject to privacy obligations and will only be disclosed in accordance with information privacy legislation.

CONCLUSION

Further information about BPEQ policies and processes is available on BPEQ's website or by contacting BPEQ directly at legal@bpeq.qld.gov.au or calling (07) 3198 0000.

While BPEQ staff will endeavour to provide assistance about processes and procedures, staff will not provide legal advice.



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RPEQS

BPEQ extends a warm welcome to the following engineers who became registered in the last month:

Rodney Batterham
Wentao Sun
Benjamin Ryan
Rudy Martignago
Angus Davis
Johannes Joubert
Stephen Dayus
Dieter Bruggemann
Ian Mackay
Sugunakar Gogula
Scott Healey
Igor Skofic
Mahdi Zoorabadi
Owen Dransfield
Damien Perren
Scott Coombes
Carol Britton
Matthew Hodder
Cameron White
Mohamed
Mohamed
Daniel Soong
Leon Fouche
Andrew Whitehead
Stan Heaney
Ismail Hassan
Ryan Paderes
David Benjamin
Matthew Allen
Ian McDonald
Onguc Yucel

Marco Nechhi
Brendyn Williams
Christopher Fletcher
Jules Anderson
Johnny Palacios
Bernard Hayes
Karl Rawnsley
Siva Kankanala
Nicole Smart
Andreas Gustafson
Christopher Way
Steven Lowry
Vidya Gopinath
Vivian Jonathan
Richard Corbett
Seren McKenzie
Allan Ross
Jo-Ann Ng
Francis Albrecht
Jonathan Ramm
Kerry Williams
Seyed Aghazadeh
Ayman Saad
Holger Becht
Murthy Ganapathy
Chee Tshung Chang
Andrew Mackie
Steven Hendrie
Marcel Olivotto
Daniel Bennett

Stephen Mewing
Aidan Roberts
Ryan Rich
Ahmed El-Atem
Lauren Beynon
Feng Zhang
Enoch Poon
Hector Ortiz
Andrew Hiley
Adam Earnshaw
Gregory
Cheesewright
Christopher Zagami
Cameron Archer-Jones
Jonathan Weir
James Porter
Stephen Holm
Bryce Leedham
Ashley Barnett
Paul Voigt
Adrien Vigoulette
Matvey Klopov
Stuart Livingstone
Shengming Tan
Peter Gaylard
Graeme Healy
Neeraj Kumar
Athula Gunasekara
Myung-Hun Park
Melissa Sentry

Paulo Ferreira
Nicholas Green
Levy Chayboub
Amir Moayedzadeh
Michael Sheeran
Paul Dennis
Daniel Gillick
Jacoba Ewan
Craig Walker
Rodney Foster
Mitchell Oliver
Damian Vassallo
Evan O'Brien
Gary Lakeman
Nia Schuhen
Clint Burgess
David Waldock
Andrew Preston
Andrew Pine
Simon Weier
Jacqueline Hansen
Manu Gravatt
Alexander Hinxman
Alastair Wilson
Simon Lang
Geoffrey Madden
Daniel Steer
Anthony Lynden
Benjamin Rice
Glen Luscombe

Luke Jordan
Anne Kolega
David Fink
Ramin Nasirpour
Brian Robertson
Ari Craven
Owen Smith
Gregory Elkins
See Hou Poon
Luke Miller
Peter Hill
Theophilus Steman
Kevin Mulhern
Callum Lillywhite
Sharon Wallace
Shane Fitzsimmons
Camden Butcher
Benjamin Kirkwood
William Robertson
Felipe Cespedes
Radhakant
Annvarpu
Amandeep Gill
Marc Dickeson
Justin Hill
Rauf Osterman
Faruk Hossain
Gerald Garry
David Dragicevich

CONNECT WITH BPEQ ON LINKEDIN



Don't forget BPEQ is on LinkedIn. To keep up to date with the latest news and events from BPEQ or to start a discussion on registration or engineering issues generally, click [FOLLOW](#).

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