



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 26

JUNE 2016

THIS ISSUE:

1. A WORD FROM THE REGISTRAR
2. WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RPEQS
3. Q&A WITH BPEQ
4. QUEENSLAND'S 'BACK TO WORK' BUDGET
5. JANE MORAN: RPEQ, ATHLETE, OLYMPIAN
6. BPEQ ON THE ROAD IN CENTRAL QUEENSLAND
7. LEADERSHIP FOR SENIOR EXECUTIVE WOMEN
8. APPEA WRAP UP

A WORD FROM THE REGISTRAR

With the end of financial year fast approaching, RPEQs should be finalising their registration renewals for 2016-17. Any RPEQs who do not complete their renewal form and pay their registration fee by 30 June will have their registration lapsed and will need to appeal to the Board to have it restored.



A number of long term RPEQs have retired in the last month. On behalf of BPEQ I would like congratulate all those retiring RPEQs and wish them all the best for the future.

RPEQs past, present and future are encouraged to take part in the [RPEQ survey](#). The answers you give are important for BPEQ to measure its performance, the standing of the PE Act and RPEQ system and in the development of new initiatives to engage RPEQs. The survey is open until 30 June.

In July, BPEQ staff will be visiting Emerald, Longreach and Barcaldine to hold registration seminars with local councils and businesses. These seminars are a

good opportunity for RPEQs and others to engage with BPEQ and have their questions about the PE Act and registration answered. If you're in these areas and want to arrange a presentation, contact BPEQ.

You can read about the upcoming Central Queensland trip, legal Q&A, the 2016 Queensland Budget and more in this edition of the e-news.

As always, if you have questions, concerns or feedback please get in touch with BPEQ at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au or call 07 3198 0000.

Kylie Mercer
Registrar



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RPEQS

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

Bradley Stevenson	Anthony Poole	Anantharamaiah	Syed Hussain
Yogish Yogish	Bronko Ogrizek	Bradley Bolger	Lorenz Eberl
Noel Saenger	Michael Lonsdale	Claudemir Gardinal	Yuvaraj Devarajan
David William Wild	Darren Mowbray	Simon Gerrish	James Derricott
Luke Anderson	Matthew Roskam	Seyed Majlessi	Venkatsubbu Ghantala
Senthinathan Rajkumar	Pauthuwadura De Silva	Sachith	Maryam Charehsaz
Michael O’Ryan	Mehdi Khammar	Ranamukhaarachchi	Daniel Buntine
Brendan Hasty	Eric Van Der Horst	Kristian Heighway	Avynash Sithanen
Virginiya Wilce	Ben Absalom	Peter Conomos	Richard Blinks
Andrew Caetano	Tony Pace	Michael Cornwall	Nigel Crabb
Brenton Atchison	Yang Cao	Constantine Papas	Suiquan Lu
Peter Laing	David Zeller	William Thomson	Andrew Leeson
Arash Akhyani	Neil Grunwell	Belinda Wells	Tendai Chadyiwa
Travis Bassan	Alex Wood	Alexander Tadman	Mark Guymmer
Rhys Mikhail	Peter Woodhead	Niall Manning	Vincent Van Kampen
Justin Woolston	Kym Huddart	Bradley Adams	Mark Dobrovits
Francisco Arbona	Samantha Twining	Chee Woo	Sanjay Gounder
Michael Meers	Alex Wood	Roger Hatfield	Richard Yearsley
John Lankester	Kelly Stokes	Mark Lu	David Pich
Saleem Varghese	David Pascoe	Robert Hazzard	Robert Carter
Walter Baxter	John Zunker	Anthony Foukas	Dayo Peters
Richard Singh	Gustavo Pereira	Hari Boppudi	James Giesbrecht
Andrew Lacey	Samuel Stephenson	Antony Kocsmar	Robert Good
Henry Leong	Luke Kenna	Mark Shaw	Christopher Sidwell
Timothy Davies	Simon Agostini	Duncan Greer	Andrew Smith
Peter Mutton	Pardis Layeghi	Benjamin Barrett	Nigel Doherty
Alok Thapar	Andrew Jacklyn	Gerard Black	
Scott Collins	Shashishekara	Kiril Petrov	

Congratulations and best wishes to the following RPEQs on their retirement:

Peter Hatch	Paul O’Kane	Ross Lawson	Phung Tu
Kenneth Gallie	Matthew Ryan	David Bertram	Stephen Bicknell
Michael Spence	Eddie Chang	Bronte Strout	Peter Taunton
Jonathan Kwan	Ian Clarke	Peter Kam	Denholm Brown
John Waterhouse	Trent Faragher	Ray Ahlholm	Geoffrey McDonald
Geoff Bird	Chris Raymond	Andrew Macbeth	Trevor Baque
Sushant Labhasetwar	Troy Evans	James Hazzard	
Matthew Zahra	Hiran Wijeratne	Michael Spence	
Michael Jefferis	Russell McGuire	Barry George	



Q&A WITH BPEQ

This month, we continue our legal Q&A on the topics most commonly encountered by BPEQ.

QUESTION 1

Q: A person has approached me and has asked me to check and certify an engineering design that they have prepared. The person is not a RPEQ, and did not carry out the design under the direct supervision of a RPEQ who was responsible for the design. Is it legal for me to do so?

A: Yes.

You did not commit, nor were you involved in committing, the offence of unregistered practice. The offence was committed by the person who prepared the design. You checking and certifying the design will not excuse their unregistered practice. It will also not make you responsible for their offence. You may check and certify the design if you wish to do so. Please note, however, that you will be responsible to the Board in its disciplinary jurisdiction if any concerns are raised about the design.

Finally, under no circumstances should you maintain that you provided direct supervision for a professional engineering service if you did not.

QUESTION 2

Q: I carried out my design only in accordance with Australian Standard w. Because it's an Australian Standard it's a prescriptive standard, right?

A: No.

Just because a document is called a "Standard" does not automatically mean it is a prescriptive standard. A document will only be a prescriptive standard if it satisfies the definition of a prescriptive standard, which is as follows:

prescriptive standard means a document:

- (a) that states procedures or criteria for carrying out a design, or a construction, production operation or maintenance activity, relating to engineering; and
- (b) the application of which, to the carrying out of the design, or the construction, production, operation or maintenance activity, does not involve advanced scientifically based calculations.



Finally, please note that to fall within the "prescriptive standard" exception the service must be carried out only in accordance with a prescriptive standard. If you depart from a prescriptive standard in any way during the carrying out of the service, you have not carried out the service only in accordance with a prescriptive standard.

The Board cannot advise you about whether something is or is not a professional engineering service. Doing so requires the expert opinion of a RPEQ registered in the appropriate area of engineering.

For more information about prescriptive standards, please refer to Board Practice Note 4.6, available for download at www.bpeq.qld.gov.au.

QUESTION 3

Q: I am not a RPEQ, but my employer is requiring me to carry out professional engineering services and has not provided a RPEQ to provide direct supervision for and take responsibility for those services. What do I do?

A: The Board is not able to provide you with employment law advice. If you are concerned about work your employer has directed you to carry out, the Board strongly suggests you contact Fair Work Australia at www.fairwork.gov.au or seek advice from a solicitor (call 1300 FOR QLS (1300 367 757) or visit www.qls.com.au for a referral to a solicitor). You may direct your employer to contact the Board to clarify the legislative requirement that professional engineers services only be carried out by a RPEQ, or under the direct supervision of a RPEQ who is responsible for the service.



QUESTION 4

Q: The fitness to practise declaration on my application/renewal/restoration form asks whether I have a conviction for an indictable offence*. I was found guilty of m indictable offence but the Court did not record a conviction. That means I don't need to declare it, right?

**The Queensland Criminal Code classifies three levels of criminal offence (simple; misdemeanour or crime). Misdemeanours or crimes are offences described as being indictable; meaning that the offences are serious enough to be judged by a jury. Examples of indictable offences include fraud, stealing as a servant, assault occasioning bodily harm or possession of a dangerous drug.*

A: No.

“Having a conviction” means that you have been found guilty for an offence. It is different to whether or not a conviction was recorded. Whether or not a conviction was recorded, you must declare the indictable offence on your form.

QUESTION 5

Q: Will I be refused registration if I declare a fitness to practise issue?

A: No.

An engineer can only be registered (or have their registration renewed or restored) if the Board considers the person is fit to practise as a RPEQ.

The existence of a fitness to practise issue does not automatically result in the refusal of registration. It may be that the issue can be dealt with by the imposition of a condition on your registration.

It is important that you disclose any issues that may affect your fitness to practise so the Board may make a fully informed decision about your registration. Failure to disclose fitness to practise issues may constitute an offence against the PE Act, which could lead to suspension or cancellation of registration. If you have an issue you are not sure whether you should disclose, please do not hesitate to contact the Board's staff for further guidance.

BUDGET 2016 AT A GLANCE

The Palaszczuk Government has handed down its [second budget](#) that it says will drive innovation, investment and infrastructure.

To help fund Queensland's growing infrastructure demands, the government has had to turn to novel solutions, namely the repatriation of surplus funds from the government employee defined benefit fund. A total of \$4 billion will be repatriated; \$2 billion will be set aside for infrastructure, with the remainder to be used in paying down State debt.

State Infrastructure priorities like the Ipswich Motorway Rocklea-Darra Stage 1 and M1 Pacific Motorway – Gateway Motorway merge upgrade will receive \$300 million; \$400 million is committed to the Toowoomba second range crossing; \$250 million for widening Gateway Motorway North to six lanes, between Nudgee and Bracken Ridge; an extra \$40 million is allocated to build a new Townsville stadium; \$50 for preliminary work on the cross-river rail project; and \$17 million to implement 'European Train Control System' improve rail capacity and safety in the inner city rail network.

The balance of the \$2 billion will be left to Building Queensland to allocate to priority infrastructure project.



To kick start innovation and investment, the government is providing a further \$225 million to Advance Queensland; \$22.7 million for small business innovation; \$6 million to establish regional innovation hubs; \$10 million for an innovation centre at James Cook University in Cairns; and \$65 million to attract interstate and overseas business, investment and students.



JANE MORAN: RPEQ, ATHLETE, OLYMPIAN

RPEQ Jane Moran made a splash at the London Olympics four years ago as part of the Australian women's water polo team that took out a Bronze Medal.

While Jane won't be part of the Stingers team bound for Rio in August, she is using her experience at the London Olympics to motivate business.

Jane, who is a civil engineer, was recently featured in Aurecon's Just Imagine blog, where she spoke about communication, balancing teamwork and individual objectives and using the experience of a loss to drive future success.

Jane works as a senior highway engineer for Aurecon and was recently appointed to the Australian Water Polo Association Board.

You can read more about Jane on the [Just Imagine](#) blog.



BPEQ ON THE ROAD IN CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

BPEQ staff will be visiting Central Queensland in mid-July to hold registration seminars with local councils and businesses.

The workshops are being planned as part of BPEQ's campaign to generate better awareness of the RPEQ system, increase the number of RPEQs and improve engineer and employer understanding of the PE Act.

The trip takes in Emerald, Longreach, Barcaldine and

surrounds. In addition to the registration seminars, BPEQ also present legal/case study workshops with engineers.

If you're in Emerald, Longreach, Barcaldine and want to arrange a registration seminar or a legal/case study workshop, contact BPEQ at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au.

LEADERSHIP FOR SENIOR EXECUTIVE WOMEN

The UQ Business School is giving interested RPEQs the chance to attend its Leadership for Senior Executive Women professional development course.

Participants will learn new ideas and approaches that combine challenging content and emotional engagement designed to facilitate insights into how women can lead in ways that are both personally satisfying and professionally rewarding.

RPEQs are being offered a discounted rate to attend the course being held from 11-14 October 2016.

Visit the [UQ Business School](#) to register and use the code NFPS10 to receive the discount.



APPEA WRAP UP



Registrar Kylie Mercer speaks with a conference delegate about the PE Act.

Brisbane played host to the oil and gas industry at the APPEA 2016 Conference in June. More than 2,000 delegates from Queensland, interstate and overseas attended the conference.

The APPEA conference is billed as the premier event for the domestic oil and gas industry and is the largest such conference in the southern hemisphere.

BPEQ was on hand to answer any and all questions about the PE Act and the RPEQ system. Graduates and international engineers were particularly interested

in getting registered and finding out how the PE Act affects them.

Registrar Kylie Mercer took the opportunity to network and meet with representatives of the various engineering and resources companies at the conference.

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](#).

T 07 3198 0000 E admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au

Level 15, 53 Albert Street Brisbane 4000
PO Box 15213 CITY EAST QLD 4002

This newsletter is provided for general information only. It is not legal advice and should not be taken or relied upon as such. If you have any questions or concerns about your compliance with the Professional Engineers Act 2002 (Qld) or your general legal obligations as an engineer, you should obtain appropriate legal advice. The Board accepts no legal responsibility or liability for any loss you may suffer as a result of reliance upon the information contained in this newsletter.