



NEWSLETTER

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A WORD FROM THE REGISTRAR

The tragedy of the Grenfell Tower fire in London serves as a stark reminder for RPEQs to be vigilant and act ethically in their work.

The existence of a non-conforming – possibly illegal – Aluminium Composite Material cladding product is believed to have contributed to the spread of the fire at Grenfell Tower. A similar cladding product was found to have contributed to a fire at the Lacrosse Tower in Melbourne in 2014, and a student accommodation building in Brisbane was last year refused certification as the external cladding used was deemed an unsafe fire hazard. Both the Commonwealth and the Queensland Government have launched inquiries into the use and prevalence of non-conforming building products.

The use of non-conforming building products is a significant issue for the engineering profession. BPEQ will be contributing to inquiries about these matters and I would encourage RPEQs to do likewise. RPEQs must also be mindful of the Code of Practice requirements to act honestly, to be informed and take reasonable steps to inform clients and employers of the possible consequences of engineering services, to act with due respect for the laws of the communities in which engineering services are provided and bring knowledge, skill, judgement and care to a task. If a RPEQ has concerns with the use or installation of

a building product, they should take reasonable steps to satisfy themselves that the product is compliant and accords with the design and material specifications.

BPEQ will be reaching out to engineers in the mining and resources sector in coming months, starting with the [Mining and Electrical Safety Conference](#) in Brisbane. Engineers perform an integral role in the development and day-to-day operations of mine sites. By engaging with the sector, BPEQ will ensure better understanding and compliance with the PE Act. Further details about the Mining and Electrical Safety Conference are included in this issue of the e-news.

Also featured in the June e-news is a case note detailing a recent prosecution and an article on the Queensland and Brisbane City Council budgets.

We trust you enjoy and find the e-news useful; 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





UNREGISTERED ENGINEER CONVICTED FOR CARRYING OUT PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES

An unregistered engineer was convicted in the Magistrates Court of Queensland for two (2) charges against section 115 of the *Professional Engineers Act 2002* (Qld) ('PE Act') for unlawfully carrying out professional engineering services.

The defendant was an unregistered engineer who was the director of a company undertaking engineering services, including professional engineering services.

It was alleged that the defendant had been engaged by a client to provide professional engineering services in relation to a residential renovation.

The conduct subject to the first charge involved the defendant undertaking an assessment of the structural soundness of a fence line, which was along an excavation. The defendant then prepared an engineering report, which was issued to the client.

The second charge involved the defendant, later, undertaking a visual assessment of the fence line and then participating in a telephone conversation with another engineer, during which the defendant expressed an opinion about the structural soundness of the fence line.

The Court was satisfied that the undertaking of a structural assessment of the fence line, both in providing the report and in undertaking a later assessment and providing the oral advice as to the structural stability of the site constituted professional engineering services.

In neither case had the defendant been directly supervised by a RPEQ who was professionally responsible for the services.

The Court convicted the defendant. A single fine of \$5,000 was imposed and the defendant was ordered to pay \$40,000 in legal and investigative costs to BPEQ.

BPEQ may investigate suspected offences against the PE Act where it reasonably suspects that an offence has been committed. RPEQs and members of the public are able to notify BPEQ of any suspected offences. Further information about BPEQ policies and complaint processes is available on [BPEQ's website](#) or by contacting BPEQ's Legal, Compliance and Investigations Unit at legal@bpeq.qld.gov.au or on (07) 3198 0000.

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

For media enquiries please call (07) 3198 0004.



2017-18 QUEENSLAND AND BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL BUDGETS

The funding impasse over Cross River Rail may finally be at an end with the Queensland Government committing an extra \$1.95 billion to the project in the [2017-18 Budget](#) and indicating it is prepared to fully fund the project without Commonwealth contributions.

The total state contribution to Cross River Rail now totals \$2.8 billion, just over half the expected project value of \$5.4 billion. The government now wants to start early project works this year.

A \$10 billion capital works outlay in 2017-18 includes Cross River Rail funding as well as funding for infrastructure in Cairns, Townsville and Rockhampton. The Cairns Convention Centre is provided \$176 million for expansion works, the Townsville Stadium is allocated \$140 million and \$200 million is committed to expanding Rockhampton's Capricorn Correctional Centre.

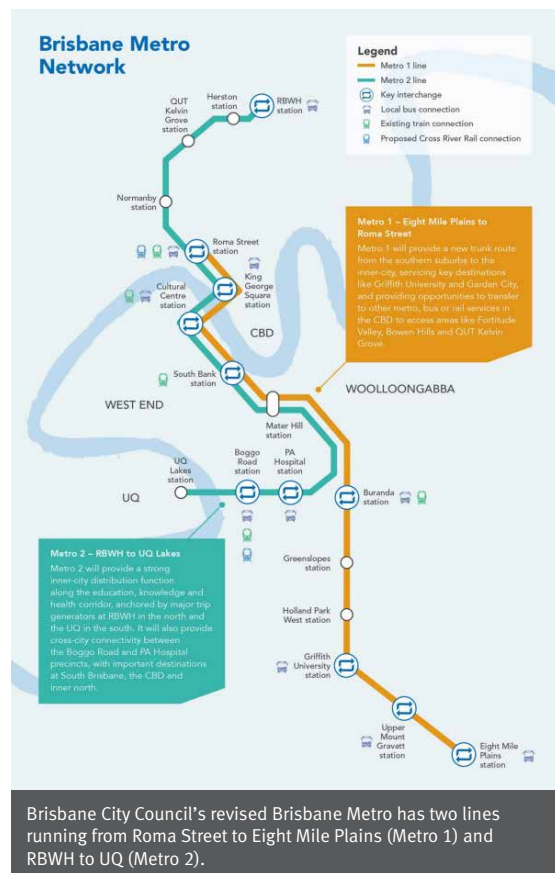
Elsewhere in North Queensland, reinvested dividends from government owned corporations Powerlink and Stanwell, along with capital investment from the government will be used to develop transmission infrastructure, to help fund improvements at Burdekin Falls Dam and an on-site hydro-electric power station. Townsville Port will benefit from a \$65 million investment for channel capacity upgrades.

Across Queensland, \$1.8 billion will be spent building 5,500 social and affordable dwellings over ten years and \$500 million is allocated to building two new schools in Brisbane.

The government expects to deliver a \$2.8 billion surplus this financial year. Due to the financial impact of Cyclone Debbie, the surplus is anticipated to fall to \$146 million in 2017-18.

Road infrastructure is the centrepiece of [Brisbane City Council's 2017-18 Budget](#). A third of BCC's \$3 billion Budget will go to the 5,728 kilometres of road in the Brisbane City Council area in 2017-18. The single biggest area of road infrastructure spending is for the Kingsford Smith Drive Upgrade, costing \$223.2 million in 2017-18.

Looking to future transport needs and infrastructure, BCC has budgeted to develop a New Transport Plan for Brisbane. The plan will provide the long-term framework for planning and delivering transport networks and services to achieve the community's future vision for Brisbane.



BCC has budgeted \$655 million to deliver modern public and active transport in 2017-18, most notably the Brisbane Metro. The Brisbane Metro will feature two high capacity and high frequency routes running from Roma Street to Eight Mile Plains and RBWH to UQ over 21 kilometres of existing infrastructure. For the 2017-18 financial year \$49.7 million is allocated to the Metro in the BCC Budget papers.

Environmental and sustainability projects receive \$583 million from the Budget and \$441 million is directed at economic, innovation and job creating projects.

BCC expects to post surpluses of \$219 million this year, \$172 million in 2018-19 and \$130 million in 2019-20.



RPEQ CHRISTIE COLE AT OZWATER17



Embracing Innovation and Disruption for a Smart Water Future

BPEQ was pleased to grant RPEQ Christie Cole the Back in the Workforce bursary to attend OzWater17.

“I attended the ‘Ozwater17’ conference, held in Sydney in May. The theme for the conference was ‘Embracing Innovation and Disruption for a Smart Water Future’. The innovation presentations were of particular interest, as wastewater treatment is currently at a juncture where many emerging technologies are potentially becoming viable. I was able to attend presentations and meet with designers and operators concerning a number of novel and emerging technologies, which detailed pilot and full-scale experiences. Through this exposure, I am better placed to offer my client’s insight to the potential application of some of these technologies to their particular needs and to offer likely timeframes for which these technologies may become accessible”.

The Back in the Workforce bursary is open to female RPEQs, non-practising professional engineers and former RPEQs based in Queensland.

The bursary supports successful applicants to attend continuing professional development courses and maintain or regain their registered status.

To apply for the Back in the Workforce bursary download and complete the [application form](#). For more information contact BPEQ at admin@bpeq.qld.gov.au or call (07) 3198 0000.

MINING AND ELECTRICAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

BPEQ is taking part in this year’s [Mining and Electrical Safety Conference](#) in Brisbane.

The two-day conference features a range of speakers from industry and government, discussing recent developments, learnings and industry best practice.

Venue: Pullman King George Square Hotel, Brisbane

Dates: 10-12 July 2017





WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST RPEQS

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

Henry Tieman	Sajid Syed
Charles-Dean Sorbello	Gurvinder Kaur
Isaac Benjamin Kirsch	Jason Millford
Venkateswara Margani	Andrew Oudyn
John Carlson	Michael Lancini
Lisa Hein	Mar Serrano Lopez
Damien Mavroudis	Jason Kane
Peter Johnson	Mark Argent
Matthew Howard	Elisabeth Simbolon
Yee Chin Lee	Brian Ming Ho Choy
Peter Lee	Daniel Starrenburg
Claude Basso	Matthew Worthington-Eyre
Ashley Robbins	Xiaolian Wang
James Nolan	Melanie Desplat
Jonathon Emonson	Ahmad Zainal
Nicholas Delieutraz	Darren Nankivell
Samuel Dolan	Sivanerupan Sivagnanasundram
Gakul Gurung	Yuzhuo Jenny Han
Adam Dear	Cameron Rodger
Mark Newton	Ke (Craig) Fei
Damien Weber	John Fournia
Sudhin Venkataramiah	

Best wishes to the following RPEQs who have retired:

Graeme Shoobridge	Frank Burns
Mark Hull	



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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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