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NSW Technology Reference Group on Water Monitoring

March 2010



Enhancement of hydrological monitoring and data management in New South Wales



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NSW State Committees

- 'NSW SWIMP Steering Committee' – to address the strategic issues of water information planning,
- 'NSW -TRG on Water Monitoring' to provide a focus for technology adoption, communication between organisations and assist information sharing in key areas of water resource monitoring.



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Progress

- To date we have held three meeting of both the SWIMP SC and TRG,
- These are held about two weeks after the SWIC / JRGWI workshops and are well attended,
- Generally the morning sessions are devoted to the SWIMP SC matters,
- Afternoons to the TRG,
- There is a some change in personnel attending the two sessions.



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Organisation of TRG

- Attendance is open to nominated officers of state agencies involved with water monitoring activities
 - the current list of agencies include:

DECCW	DII	HWC
NOW	MHL	SCA
SWB	SWC	Bureau NSW

- Plus Snow Hydro Ltd.
- Attendance at meetings may vary depending on the topics being discussed and the technical expertise and interest of members.



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NSW TRG – *Terms of Reference* (draft)

1. Provide a forum for agencies to discuss the application of technology and data systems to water monitoring,
2. Share knowledge and experience in the areas of instrumentation, telemetry, data transfer and management,
3. Identify cost effective solutions to water monitoring activities (e.g. cost saving in new telemetry systems),
4. Link with similar committees established by the Bureau or other jurisdictions,
5. Develop joint Funding Applications to the Bureau under the M & E Program
6. Report to the *NSW SWIMP SC on actions.*



Scope and Function

- TRG is looking to address the following areas:

Telemetry	Instrumentation
Doppler technology	QA / QC
Data management	Data Sharing
Data Dissemination	Future opportunities

- External speakers will be invited to specific sessions



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TRG Activities

- TRG will have a strong focus on the Bureau's M&E projects and develop linkages to the AHA where appropriate.
- What is not done
 - Dealing with the development of Standards,
 - Dictate on instrument selection or databases to organisations,
 - Duplicate areas already covered well by the AHA or Bureau,



Link to other Jurisdictions

- Around 120 approved M&E projects in 2009/10
 - only some 35 in NSW,
- To be effective, the NSW TRG needed to link their work to similar groups in other states,
- This was discussed at the last SWIC workshop and has led to us being here today,
- The concept of a National TRG seems well supported around the states/ territories
 - is its future worth discussing further at this workshop?



Where to from here?

- This first National TRG workshop seems a good starting point,

SOME SUGGESTIONS

- The provision by the Bureau of a web site that;
 - lists all key projects of interest,
 - provides project aims, outcomes, and lessons learned,
 - perhaps include a PowerPoint presentation/report, and
 - a blog space for Q & A communication,
- Establish Special Interest Groups (SIG) in areas of key technologies, e.g. Doppler, telemetry options, etc
- Bureau sponsorship of half yearly TRG workshops and/or linkage with AHA



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Further Discussion

