



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	Marco Nechhi	Stephen Mewing	Paulo Ferreira	Luke Jordan
Wentao Sun	Brendyn Williams	Aidan Roberts	Nicholas Green	Anne Kolega
Benjamin Ryan	Christopher Fletcher	Ryan Rich	Levy Chayboub	David Fink
Rudy Martignago	Jules Anderson	Ahmed El-Atem	Amir Moayedzadeh	Ramin Nasirpour
Angus Davis	Johnny Palacios	Lauren Beynon	Michael Sheeran	Brian Robertson
Johannes Joubert	Bernard Hayes	Feng Zhang	Paul Dennis	Ari Craven
Stephen Dayus	Karl Rawnsley	Enoch Poon	Daniel Gillick	Owen Smith
Dieter Bruggemann	Siva Kankanala	Hector Ortiz	Jacoba Ewan	Gregory Elkins
Ian Mackay	Nicole Smart	Andrew Hiley	Craig Walker	See Hou Poon
Sugunakar Gogula	Andreas Gustafson	Adam Earnshaw	Rodney Foster	Luke Miller
Scott Healey	Christopher Way	Gregory	Mitchell Oliver	Peter Hill
Igor Skofic	Steven Lowry	Cheesewright	Damian Vassallo	Theophilus Steman
Mahdi Zoorabadi	Vidya Gopinath	Christopher Zagami	Evan O'Brien	Kevin Mulhern
Owen Dransfield	Vivian Jonathan	Cameron Archer-Jones	Gary Lakeman	Callum Lillywhite
Damien Perren	Richard Corbett	Jonathan Weir	Nia Schuhen	Sharon Wallace
Scott Coombes	Seren McKenzie	James Porter	Clint Burgess	Shane Fitzsimmons
Carol Britton	Allan Ross	Stephen Holm	David Waldock	Camden Butcher
Matthew Hodder	Jo-Ann Ng	Bryce Leedham	Andrew Preston	Benjamin Kirkwood
Cameron White	Francis Albrecht	Ashley Barnett	Andrew Pine	William Robertson
Mohamed	Jonathan Ramm	Paul Voigt	Simon Weier	Felipe Cespedes
Mohamed	Kerry Williams	Adrien Vigoulette	Jacqueline Hansen	Radhakant
Daniel Soong	Seyed Aghazadeh	Matvey Klopov	Manu Gravatt	Annvarpu
Leon Fouche	Ayman Saad	Stuart Livingstone	Alexander Hinxman	Amandeep Gill
Andrew Whitehead	Holger Becht	Shengming Tan	Alastair Wilson	Marc Dickeson
Stan Heaney	Murthy Ganapathy	Peter Gaylard	Simon Lang	Justin Hill
Ismail Hassan	Chee Tshung Chang	Graeme Healy	Geoffrey Madden	Rauf Osterman
Ryan Paderes	Andrew Mackie	Neeraj Kumar	Daniel Steer	Faruk Hossain
David Benjamin	Steven Hendrie	Athula Gunasekara	Anthony Lynden	Gerald Garry
Matthew Allen	Marcel Olivotto	Myung-Hun Park	Benjamin Rice	David Dragicevich
Ian McDonald	Daniel Bennett	Melissa Sentry	Glen Luscombe	

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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