

2ND ANNUAL

# WATER LEADERS CONGRESS

Towards water reform, security and leadership

**25 & 26 FEBRUARY 2010**

SYDNEY HARBOUR MARRIOTT HOTEL AT CIRCULAR QUAY

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Driving water reform at national, state and local levels
- Restoring the Murray River – A progress report
- Integrating sustainability into water management practices
- Exploring alternative supply and diversification for future water security
- Modernising infrastructure for improved water delivery and irrigation
- Supporting water management strategies through better information
- Emerging issues in water trading and market design

**“I enjoyed the diversity of speakers and topics. Overall, the content was diverse and interesting and a variety of solutions were offered by the speakers”**  
**Cheryl Rix, CEO, Western Murray Irrigation Ltd**



### HEAR FROM LEADING INDUSTRY EXPERTS:



Dr John Williams,  
chairman,  
**Natural Resources  
Commission**



The Hon Phillip Costa  
MP,  
**Minister for Water  
and Regional  
Development NSW**



Dr James Horne,  
deputy secretary,  
Water Group,  
**Department of  
Environment, Water,  
Heritage and the Arts**



Robert Freeman,  
CEO,  
**Murray Darling  
Basin Authority**



David Papps,  
chief executive,  
**ACT Department  
of Environment,  
Climate Change,  
Energy and Water**



Dr Judi Hansen,  
general manager -  
sustainability,  
**Sydney Water  
Corporation**



Alan Gregory,  
theme leader, urban  
water research, Water  
for a Healthy Country  
Flagship,  
**CSIRO**



John Ringham,  
chief operating officer,  
**SA Water  
Corporation**



Stewart McLeod,  
chair,  
**Water Directorate**



James Cameron,  
deputy CEO,  
**National Water  
Commission**



Gavin Hanlon,  
managing director,  
**Coliban Water**



The Hon Greg Hunt,  
MP,  
**Shadow Minister  
for Climate Change,  
Environment and  
Water**



Brett Tucker,  
managing director,  
**Murrumbidgee  
Irrigation**



Les Mathieson,  
managing director,  
**East Gippsland  
Water**



Mike Paine,  
CEO,  
**Cradle Mountain  
Water**

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2ND ANNUAL

# WATER LEADERS CONGRESS

AGENDA | 25 FEBRUARY 2010

## About the event

The Australian water industry faces a number of significant challenges, from ongoing supply shortages, ageing infrastructure; trade barriers and the unknowns surrounding climate change. While progress is already being made on water reform, there is still work to do. To ensure the future sustainability of this \$90 billion industry, it is more important than ever to ensure effective water management strategies are in place that are built on sound understanding and a shared sense of direction towards reform and a future of improved water security.

The 2nd Annual Water Leaders Congress provides a forum for knowledge-sharing around the topical issues facing the national water industry right now, and the policies and initiatives being rolled out to deal with them. Featuring a selection of new case studies presented by a leading speaker faculty, the Congress is the premier learning and networking opportunity for senior decision-makers in the water, energy and infrastructure fields across the nation.

8:30

**Registration opens**

8:55

**Welcome and opening remarks from the Chairperson**

Dr John Williams, chairman, Natural Resources Commission

9:00 ● **OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**The state of the water industry in NSW**

The Hon Phillip Costa MP, Minister for Water and Regional Development NSW

9:30 ● **CASE STUDY**

**Water for the future - A stocktake**

Dr James Horne, deputy secretary, water group, Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts

10:15 Morning tea

10:45 ● **KEYNOTE CASE STUDY**

**Tackling the challenge of restoring the Murray River – An update on the Basin Plan**

- Considering issues relating to planning for Basin resource management
- Improving security and certainty for water users
- Working with other entities to achieve outcomes – Your role under the Plan

Robert Freeman, CEO, Murray Darling Basin Authority

**“Very impressive speakers with great understanding of industry”**

**Robert Loadsman, executive manager corporate services, Midcoast Water**

11:30 ● **LEGAL UPDATE**

**Legal insights into water trading**

- Understanding emerging issues in water law
- The national water market – Opportunities and risks
- Challenges arising from differing regulatory regimes on a state and national level

12:30 Networking Lunch

1:30 ● **CASE STUDY**

**Meeting the challenge of climate change through sustainable water management**

- Integrating water management elements to ensure sustainable use and security of supply
- The “Think water act water” strategy – Update and review
- Future priorities and directions

David Papps, chief executive, ACT Department of Environment, Climate Change, Energy and Water

2:00 ● **CASE STUDY**

**Integrating sustainability best-practice into business management – The Sydney Water experience**

- Identifying and assessing risk exposure to climate change and variability
- Developing business capacity and implementing efficiencies to ensure future water security
- Overcoming challenges and leveraging opportunities

Dr Judi Hansen, general manager - sustainability, Sydney Water Corporation

2:45 Afternoon tea

3:15 ● **CASE STUDY**

**Water for a healthy country – A CSIRO case study**

- Focusing on sustainable urban water management
- Addressing the nexus between water and energy
- Providing research to support the implementation of state-led water strategies

Alan Gregory, theme leader, urban water research, Water for a Healthy Country Flagship, CSIRO

4:00 ● **CASE STUDY**

**Diversifying supply for future water security in South Australia**

- Exploring the potential of alternative water supply to ensure future sustainability in a changing environment
- Considering the viability of stormwater and desalination in overall water supply management
- Clarifying future priorities and projects in the pipeline

John Ringham, chief operating officer, SA Water Corporation

4:45 Concluding remarks from the Chairperson

5:00 Networking drinks function

Register online at [watercongress.infrastructurenewsonline.com.au](http://watercongress.infrastructurenewsonline.com.au)



## AGENDA | 26 FEBRUARY 2010

**8:30**  
**Registration opens**

**8:55**  
**Welcome and opening remarks from the Chairperson**  
Stewart McLeod, chair, Water Directorate

**9:00 ● KEYNOTE CASE STUDY**  
**A national approach to water reform in Australia**

- Assessing progress of the National Water Initiative: Lessons from the National Water Commission's biennial assessment
- Enhancing effectiveness of stakeholder engagement in water planning
- Promoting an integrated rather than piecemeal approach to reform

James Cameron, deputy CEO, National Water Commission

**9:45 ● CASE STUDY**  
**Developing a contingency plan for sustainable water management**

- Considering the context for developing a contingency plan - Climate change, reduced supply reliability and aging infrastructure
- Establishing the timeline for key decisions
- Integrating elements of water management from supply interconnectivity to infrastructure modernisation and improved use of the water market
- Future outlook and priorities

Gavin Hanlon, managing director, Coliban Water

**10:30 Morning tea**

**11:00 ● KEYNOTE COMMENTARY**  
**Facing challenges in water management – The opposition's perspective**

- The current challenges facing the industry
- Priorities for water infrastructure

The Hon Greg Hunt MP, Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Environment and Water

**11:30 ● CASE STUDY**  
**The role of irrigation modernisation planning in long-term water management strategy**

- Modernising water delivery
- Adapting to a future of water scarcity
- Improving risk management in a changing environment
- Experiences and lessons learned

Brett Tucker, managing director, Murrumbidgee Irrigation

**12:15 Networking Lunch**

**1:15 ● CASE STUDY**

**Leadership in water recycling and reuse**

- Achieving 100 percent beneficial reuse of waste water over the past decade – It's reasonably easy
- Dealing with the difficulty of achieving environmentally sustainable wastewater reuse together with satisfactory financial outcomes
- Pricing recycled water and justifying the expense of reuse schemes

Les Mathieson, managing director, East Gippsland Water

**2:00 ● CASE STUDY**

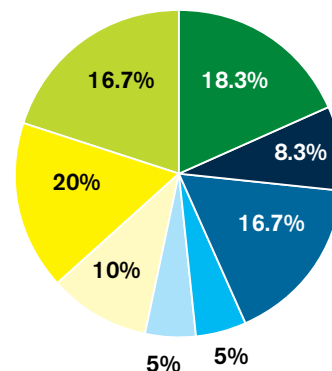
**Reforming Tasmania's water and sewerage sector**

- Coordinating a regional approach to water and sewerage management
- Delivering a program of infrastructure and service improvements
- Improving sustainability and accountability – The Compliance Implementation Plan

Mike Paine, CEO, Cradle Mountain Water

**2:45 Concluding remarks from the Chairperson and close of conference**

**Attendees of the 2009 Water Leaders Congress**



- Water Industry Directors
- Councillors
- Infrastructure Managers
- Legal Partners & General Counsel
- Business Development Managers
- CEO's
- Water Services & Recovery
- General Managers

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- Early bird rate \$1,295.00 inc GST**  
(expires 16 December 2009)
- Standard rate \$1,495.00 inc GST**

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(expires 16 December 2009)
- Standard rate \$4,485.00 inc GST**



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