

Contents:

- Pg. 2** E10
- Pg. 3** NSW
- Pg. 4** NSW
- Pg. 5** Qld
- Pg. 6** SA
- Pg. 7** Vic

Forthcoming Events *Calender*

SEPTEMBER



The 3rd International Contaminated Site Remediation Conference 27-30 September and 5th International Workshop on Chemical Bioavailability 24-25 September, to be held at the Adelaide Hilton, South Australia during September 2009.



EcoForum 10
23-24 February 2010
 Submission of an outline paper by 30 September

OCTOBER

NSW - Sydney
 7th – Sediment Remediation

NSW - Newcastle
 14th – TBA

QLD 21st – TBA

VIC 28th – Practical Remediation & Landfill Disposal

SA 29th – Advances in Soil Treatment Technologies

NOVEMBER

NSW - Sydney
 4th – Groundwater Remediation

NSW - Newcastle
 11th – TBA

QLD 18th – TBA

VIC 25th – How to Avoid the Landfill Levy

SA 26th – Groundwater Assessment & Treatment

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EcoForum 2010



In 2010 EcoForum will focus on remediation, water, waste and climate change.

The Australian Land and Groundwater Association will be participating again in 2010, and will be organising seminars on topics of particular current interest to the contaminated land industry. Peter Nadebaum, President of ALGA, will be stream leader.

It is expected that the program will include:

Remediation of contaminated sites: the key innovations and methods from Cleanup09 and their practical application in Australia will be summarised and discussed. Papers that contribute to this discussion are invited.

SURF Australia: it is expected that an Australian node of the Sustainable Remediation Forum (SURF) active in the US and UK- with the launch of SURF Australia Cleanup09 in September. ALGA is currently involved in the preparation of an initial framework for the Sustainable Remediation and management of soil and groundwater contamination, for discussion at Cleanup09. It is expected that a meeting of SURF Australia will be held at Ecoforum, and this will provide an opportunity for further discussion on development of an Australian framework for sustainable remediation of soil and groundwater contamination. Papers on the practice and experience relating to the application of sustainability principles in soil and groundwater remediation are invited.

NEPM review: A seminar will be held with representatives of the NEPM Review committee to discuss key issues that are being considered for inclusion in

the final documentation on the National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure.

Workshops on topics of current interest, including:

- Asbestos – the status of the latest guidelines and confirmation of the basis for signing off that asbestos sites are suitable for use, and examples of how this is currently being applied. Papers that provide examples of the application of the new Western Australian guidelines are particularly invited.
- Groundwater contamination management across the states: how achieving practicable solutions to the management of groundwater contamination varies across the states, and the direction of a national approach. Papers that contribute to this discussion are invited.

- Site management plans – the practice of managing residual contamination through site management plans is widespread in Australia. The approach being taken in the various states will be discussed with a view to gaining an understanding of what is appropriate. Papers that contribute to this discussion are invited.
- Setting clean up criteria for volatile contamination: it is recognised that predicting the vapour that will result from soil contamination is highly uncertain, and this makes it difficult to set clean up criteria. A body of practice is evolving on this, and this will be discussed. Papers that contribute to this discussion are invited.

How to submit

To be considered for the EcoForum program you will need to submit an outline paper that clearly states the objectives and desired outcomes of your proposed contribution. This is to be a minimum of one page including any figures, tables and diagrams, but no photos. The file size is to be no more than 5 MB. Click here for guidelines. Please submit your outline paper by email to david@quitz.biz by 30 September 2009.

Terms and conditions

By submitting an outline paper you are agreeing to the following terms and conditions:

- when we receive your outline paper it will be converted to a secure PDF and posted on the event website. You may update your paper at any time and if it is accepted into the program it will remain on the website for two years
- the organisers will review the outline paper for suitability, content and relevance before your presentation is accepted into the program. You will be notified of acceptance by 30 November 2009
- you will register as a paying delegate at the discounted presenters rate of \$790 (incl. GST) by 31 December 2009.

Deadlines

Submission of an outline paper by 30 September
Notification of acceptance by 30 November 2009
Pay registration fee by 31 December 2009
Submit PowerPoint files by 31 January 2010

Enquiries

David Bates Mobile 0435 303 807 Email david@quitz.biz

Report on the NSW branch events

Sediment Remediation

Venue: Henry Davis York, 44 Martin Place, Sydney

Time: Wednesday 7th October, 5.30 for 6.00 pm start

Cost: \$30 members and \$50 non-members.
Light refreshments provided.

RSVP essential: Elisabethe Dank, ph 03 9741 4679 or
secretariat@landandgroundwater.com

Dr Ian Swane from SKM will give a presentation on a history of sediment remediation in the US and likely future policy directions there. This will be followed by a panel discussion around the following points:

- What are the triggers for sediment remediation?
- Do the liabilities related to sediment contamination differ from those associated with soil contamination?
- Should sediment remediation be tied to land remediation?
- Who should pay?
- Is there a difference between regulated and non regulated sites?
- Is ongoing management a viable remediation option?
- Are there viable in situ options?
- Is capping the best solution?
- Are offshore dumping criteria too stringent?
- Will we see an increase in sediment remediation projects going forward?

Report on the NSW branch events



Groundwater Remediation

Venue: Henry Davis York, 44 Martin Place, Sydney

Time: Wednesday 4th November, 5.30 for 6.00 pm start

Cost: \$30 members and \$50 non-members. Light refreshments provided.

RSVP essential: Elisabethe Dank, ph 03 9741 4679 or secretariat@landandgroundwater.com

Chris Jewell from Chris Jewell and Associates will give a presentation on the current situation in NSW. This will be followed by a panel discussion including representatives from the DECCW, affected landowners, remediation contractors and consultants. They will discuss and debate issues including:

- Practical experiences with implementing the NSW groundwater guidelines
- What are the implications of the notification guidelines and the CLM Act amendments for groundwater contamination?
- How is the highest beneficial use of an aquifer determined?
- Are there viable alternatives to energy-intensive containment strategies?
- Is long-term remediation of shallow groundwater systems in the Sydney Basin possible?
- Is harmonisation of state approaches to groundwater assessment and remediation possible or desirable?

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Report on the QLD branch events

Sustainable Remediation



The inaugural meeting of the Queensland branch of ALGA was held in the offices of Blake Dawson Lawyers on Wednesday 19 August 2009.

The meeting focused on Sustainable Remediation and 37 people attended representing a cross section of the industry including developers, landowners, consultants, regulators, lawyers and contractors.

The meeting was introduced by John Hunt who explained ALGA's purpose and then presented the video of Dr Paul Bardos of the E3 group in the UK on sustainable remediation. Paul has been leading initiatives such as the CLARINET project, which has involved a large number of European countries. Paul provided an outline of the current state of play around the world on sustainable remediation, including the frameworks that are being adopted, and their advantages and disadvantages. He outlined considerations such as whether a quantitative or a qualitative approach should be adopted, and where information on options and methods can be obtained.

The presentations were followed by a panel session facilitated by John Briggs (Blake Dawson), involving Greg O'Brien (Department of Environment and Resource Management), John Hunt (Thiess Services), and Tracy Berger (Coffey Environments) with a number of interesting points being made from the floor.

Greg O'Brien stressed that while the overall process could use some improvement, we need to be pragmatic about remedial outcomes and that we wouldn't want to add another level of regulation that could potentially slow things down. Greg raised the subject of "over-remediation" and agreed that more sensible soil criteria are needed, such as are included in the revised NEPM currently being finalised.

John Hunt made the point that contractors can't do much to change fundamentally alter remedial strategies by the time they are involved – this would need to be done much earlier in the piece during planning stages. He also noted that any remedial strategy needs to take into account the context of the land setting and from that perspective look at whether some methods are more sustainable than others.

Tracy Berger asked the question "who drives/encourages the concept of sustainable remediation?" – councils, regulators, financiers?? Also, QLD is about to enact the Sustainable Planning Bill – has anyone found anything to do with sustainable remediation in the proposed Bill? She also suggested that consultants should probably spend more time seriously looking at the "do nothing" option at the remedial feasibility study stage – if we charge in and dig things up, disrupt the natural subsurface ecology and structure, etc. – are we really making things any better than by just allowing things to degrade naturally?

Questions from the floor included a question about why QLD hasn't introduced enviro and waste levies like some of the other states – and aren't we creating "concentrated" contamination by allowing landfilling. Greg O'Brien reiterated that the DERM's stance is that in most instances it is preferable to move contamination away from where people live to where they don't.

Another question asked about getting new technology approved by DERM. Kim Barry from DERM replied that if the consultant can provide a scientifically defensible rationale for using the technology than it will likely be approved.

The meeting closed with John Hunt taking a roundup of topics which might be of interest to future meetings of the Queensland branch.

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Report on the SA branch events

Site Contamination Amendments to the SA Environment Protection Act.



The Second forum of the South Australian branch of ALGA was held in the offices of Minter Ellison Lawyers on Thursday 27 August 2009.

The forum focused on recent amendments to the Environment Protection Act 1993 in relation to site contamination. Nineteen people attended representing a cross section of the industry including landowners, consultants, regulators, lawyers and contractors.

The meeting was introduced by Judith Bradsen (Partner) of Minter Ellison who welcomed guests to the venue. Minter Ellison have agreed to support ALGA for the next 12 months with a venue and are an honorary corporate sponsor of ALGA. John Hunt, from the ALGA board then introduced ALGA and its aims, objectives and activities to the audience.

Judith Bradsen and Kathryn Nicolai from Minter Ellison then gave a short presentation on the significance of changes to the act particularly the aspects dealing with historical contamination. This was followed by a presentation by Andrew Pruszinski from EPA SA who was involved in drafting the amendments.

Matters of interest that were discussed included:

- the provisions for recognition of express agreements to transfer liability and the difficulty around transferring liability using generic provisions;

- the onus on a wide range of parties to notify the EPA if they know or suspect that contamination exists that has caused or has the potential to cause harm to groundwater;
- the power of the EPA to pursue cases of offsite contamination; and
- the role of site contamination auditors under the proposed amendments to the Development Act.

At the moment there is no specific legislation covering site contamination investigations in the situation of property transfers following zoning change to a more sensitive landuse. The government will address this in the future, through amendments to the Development Act.

Advances in Soil Treatment Technologies.

Venue: Minter Ellison -
Level 10, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

Time: Thursday 29th October,
5.30 for 6.00 pm start

Cost: \$20 members and \$40 non-members.
Light refreshments provided.

RSVP essential: Elisabethe Dank,
ph 03 9741 4679 or
secretariat@landandgroundwater.com

A number of practitioners will speak on commonly used and emerging treatment options including bioremediation, stabilisation and in-situ and ex-situ thermal treatment. The panel will debate issues including:

- What is the applicability, effectiveness and risk associated with each technology;
- What do they cost and how long do they take; and
- What is their carbon footprint and are they sustainable?

Groundwater Assessment & Treatment.

Venue: Minter Ellison -
Level 10, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide

Time: Thursday 26th November,
5.30 for 6.00 pm start

Cost: \$20 members and \$40 non-members.
Light refreshments provided.

RSVP essential: Elisabethe Dank,
ph 03 9741 4679 or
secretariat@landandgroundwater.com

ALGA SA Forum 4 will discuss groundwater assessment and treatment in SA including how the concept of "remediation to the extent necessary (RTEN)" is applied.

A number of speakers will present including representatives of the EPA, affected landowners, remediation contractors and consultants.

The panel will debate issues including:

- What are the shortcomings of the present system and available guidelines;
- What is the EPA doing with respect to revising policies and guidelines; and
- What changes might be expected in the expected management approach.

Report on the VIC branch events

Practical Remediation and Landfill Disposal

Venue: DLA Phillips Fox, Level 21, 140 William Street, Melbourne

Time: Wednesday 28th October, 5.30 for 6.00 pm start

Cost: \$30 members and \$50 non-members. Light refreshments provided.

RSVP essential: Elisabethe Dank, ph 03 9741 4679 or secretariat@landandgroundwater.com

At this session we will have a panel forum to discuss and debate the following issues:

- Has the increased landfill levy lead to innovation in onsite or offsite treatment and a reduction in dig and dump?
- What did we learn from Clean Up 09?
- What remediation technologies are being practised or are at the pre approvals stage for Victoria?
- Beneficial Reuse of soils, what is the state of play?



How to Avoid the Landfill Levy

Venue: DLA Phillips Fox, Level 21, 140 William Street, Melbourne

Time: Wednesday 25th November, 5.30 for 6.00 pm start

Cost: \$30 members and \$50 non-members. Light refreshments provided.

RSVP essential: Elisabethe Dank, ph 03 9741 4679 or secretariat@landandgroundwater.com

At this session we will have a panel forum to discuss and debate the following issues:

- Waste regulations - are the new Industrial Waste Regulations having a positive impact on how we conduct our business?
- HazWaste funding – what proposals are being funded and funding priorities
- Trends in Landfill disposal – is landfill disposal still a viable option?
- Transport of soils and reuse options – is all soil being transported a waste?
- What are the available treatment options? Are they commercial reality or pie in the sky? or are at the pre approvals stage for Victoria?



Do you know someone who will benefit being an ALGA Member?

A new Membership brochure soon to be released!

- More Sponsorship & Membership opportunities
- Please register your interest - contact Elisabethe Dank, ph 03 9741 4679 or email secretariat@landandgroundwater.com

2010 Annual fees* (1 January - 31 December)

Individual member	\$132	Gold sponsor	\$5,500
Student member		Silver sponsor	\$3,300
(full-time)	\$66	Bronze sponsor	\$1,100

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*inclusive of GST