Project Description

	Description	Provide Comments
Title	**PFActS – Fact Sheet guidance on risks, challenges and management strategies for PFAS**	
Project Type	☒State-of-knowledge ☐Problem Definition ☐Knowledge Generation ☐Knowledge Transfer ☐ Knowledge Adoption ☐Benefit Realisation	
Problem	PFAS contamination poses a threat to established practices of the Water industry throughout the world. This can include the contamination of potable water, potential human exposure and environmental contamination from recycled water and biosolids land application as well as, environmental impacts from effluent discharges. **This project aims to provide clear information and guidance on the challenges and management strategies for PFAS in the water industry context, to help reduce risks of PFAS to customers and the environment.**	
Background/ Description:	Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been labelled as one of the biggest water quality issues of the 21st century. PFAS (PFOS, PFOA, etc.) are highly water soluble and resistant to degradation and hence widely present in the environment. They bioaccumulate and are now a major concern in many countries with groundwater, soil and drinking water contamination, accumulation in wastewater and biosolids, and potential impacts on the environment and human health. It is now critical to collaborate internationally on this issue to tackle this challenge. This proposed research project to produce a set of Fact Sheets for the water industry is intended to summarise the major aspects of PFAS relevant to the water industry. The development of the fact sheets is supported by an international survey on PFAS that was sent to water industry utilities and research organisations globally (through the GWRC).	
Objectives:	Water Research Australia is proposing to work with the Global Water Research Coalition, in the creation of four succinct pamphlets/ fact sheets in clear and easy-to-understand language, pitched at: • Water utility staff in operational roles • Water utility staff in customer and communications roles • Each pamphlet will contain water-industry-relevant facts and information in each of four key areas: PFAS - water industry risks and challenges, PFAS in drinking water, PFAS in recycled water, PFAS in biosolids.	

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	The Outputs: Proposed outputs comprise four A5 size pamphlets with about 6 pages of content, plus intro/credits/refs and front/back page; available as downloadable documents with possibly a limited hardcopy print run.	
Scope/ Deliverables:	The Outputs: Proposed outputs comprise four A5 size pamphlets with about 6 pages of content, plus intro/credits/refs and front/back page; available as downloadable documents with possibly a limited hardcopy print run. 1. PFActS 1 – Water industry risks and challenges 2. PFActS 2 - PFAS and Drinking Water 3. PFActS 3 - PFAS and Recycled Water 4. PFActS 4 - PFAS and Biosolids	
Stakeholders	All WaterRA Industry Members, stakeholders (e.g. Depts of Health, EPAs etc.) and trusted partners would benefit from this research	
Investigative or Research approach	Research approach to be used: Tailored collaboration with research provider to produce a customised set of Fact Sheets for the water industry	
Indicative Funding required:	☒Small (<$100k) ☐Medium ($100-$500k) ☐Large (>$500k)	
Duration/Start	☒Short (<6 months) ☐Medium (6-18 months) ☐Long (>18 months) Start: January 2020	

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