

**Rowena Lennings**

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**education:** University of NSW, BA (1981)

**1993 -present**

**Integrated Analysis Pty Ltd, Managing Director**

Rowena has delivered the consultation and communication requirements of several significant infrastructure projects in the transport, roadways, water, waste, mining and land remediation sectors. She has done this as part of the executive project management team in private/public partnerships, Alliances and consortiums of some of Australia's blue chip companies. Examples of major projects include:

## ***Infrastructure development***

### **Southern Sydney Freight Line (ARTC) 2008-2011**

Role: Independent Community Liaison Representative, endorsed by Dept of Planning

Responsibility includes overseeing compliance with community relations statutory obligations for this project on behalf of Planning NSW. This involves chairing Community Liaison Group meetings, overseeing complaint handling and notification procedures along with providing dispute resolution services.

### **NSW Transport & Infrastructure: Sydney Ferries timetable changes 2010**

Role: social impacts consultantancy

Provided analysis of community input and stakeholder submissions regarding proposed timetable amendments and produced consultation report including key issues and recommendations for adjustments.

### **Web 2 and Community Engagement 2010 (NSW Roads and Traffic Authority)** Role: Communications consultantancy

Prepared issues and paper and recommendations to the Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW as to the application of Web 2 tools (social media eg blogs, facebook) to community engagement in the planning and delivery of their projects, then developed the initial communications plan that incorporated a Web 2 strategy for the Bells Line of Road Strategic Corridor Plan.

### **Sydney Desalination Project: Water Delivery System 2007 – 2010**

Role: Manager of Community Relations and Communication

As part of the Alliance Management Team, Rowena has managed community and stakeholder engagement over the past three years for Sydney Water's most significant and controversial infrastructure development since Warragamba dam. This

project was delivered on time and under budget while meeting all its key performance indicators. It has also achieved a number of industry awards.

### **Windsor Road Upgrade including Windsor Flood Evacuation Route 2004/07**

Role: Community Relations Manager (three component projects)

The upgrade of Old Windsor Road to four traffic lanes between Rouse Hill & Mc Graths Hill, together with a high-level Windsor flood evacuation route across South Creek, at a value of \$450M was part of the largest urban arterial road program undertaken by any state government. As Community Relations Manager Rowena liaised closely with neighbouring residents and businesses to ensure the work was planned and executed with minimal inconvenience to neighbours and commuters.

### **Project: Kent Street Cycle Route, Sydney CBD (City of Sydney Council)**

Conducted the initial business and stakeholder consultation including analysis of surveys results and submissions and preparation of representations report. The cycle route is now successfully in operation.

### **Cross City Tunnel (construction phase) 2002 -2005**

Role: Community Relations Manager reporting to CEO and Community and Environment Board Committee of the Cross City Motorway P/L.

With construction activities surrounded by 30,000 homes and businesses, sometimes less than only 2 metres away and 600,000 vehicles accessing the construction area daily, Rowena led the Community Relations team who worked closely with local business and residents to achieve co-operation that was reflected in the predominantly positive media coverage during construction and in exceeding the projects's regulatory compliance requirements.

### **Maitland Third River Crossing 2006**

Role: Facilitator of Community Liaison Group

Rowena established and facilitated Community Liaison Group during the environmental assessment of the preferred option throughout 2006. She negotiated an outcomes focused process that replaced monthly meetings with specifically scheduled meetings when the opportunity arose to add value, as study information became available.

### **American Water Works and Research Foundation/CSIRO 2005**

Reporting to Carol Howe, Director of Sustainable Cities Program, CSIRO

The CSIRO was engaged by the American Water Works and Research Foundation team to lead an international working group of Water Utilities and Regulatory Authorities from UK, Canada, NZ and Australia in sustainable water management practice. Rowena facilitated the intensive series of workshops in Los Angeles that resulted in the publication of resource materials to guide water utilities.

### **Coal Seam Methane (CSM) Gas Extraction: Central Coast NSW 2005**

Reporting to Michael Knight, previous Chairman, Sydney Gas

The NSW government has expressed its commitment to the harvesting of CSM gas associated with NSW coal deposit. Rowena conducted a community scan and produced a report that qualified the risk to Sydney Gas of proceeding with their current approach. Sydney Gas decided to withdraw from the Wyong Gas project and re-direct its efforts in the Hunter Valley.

### **Launceston "Vision 2020" 2005-2006**

Reporting to the Project Committee chaired by Saul Eslake, Chief Economist, ANZ

Launceston City Council contracted Rowena to engage the community in setting a Vision for the future in order to manage change in a positive way. Rowena conducted an extensive consultation exercise that uncovered clear results to guide future planning direction.

### **Dioxin Remediation of Homebush Bay and contaminated land on Rhodes Peninsular 2001 -2003**

Reporting to Waterways Authority and Theiss Services (remediation contractor)

Local resident action groups formed to oppose the remediation of Homebush Bay, succeeded in generating alarmist media coverage of the proposal. Voicing their fears their childrens' health would be especially vulnerable during the remediation process, community leaders threatened to boycott the community engagement process and picket the site. The NSW Government remained adamant, however, that as dioxin had entered the food chain in sufficient quantities to establish a ban on fishing, the remediation must proceed.

Rowena successfully negotiated a community engagement process that was acceptable to the resident opposition groups and they remained committed to it throughout the 18 month study period. This process resulted in identification of a mutually acceptable remediation technology that was proposed in the Environmental Impact Statement. The mandatory exhibition of the EIS yielded comparatively few negative representations. Remediation and redevelopment has proceeded without controversy.

### **The Sydney Drinking Water Crisis 1998**

Reporting to the CEO and Board of the Sydney Catchment Authority and the Ministerial Liaison Officer of the Department of Planning

One of the main outcomes of the Sydney Water (McClellan) Inquiry was the call for community engagement in developing regulations that would ensure stricter regulation of the outer drinking water catchment area. The regional community were generally resentful of this and the whole package of recently introduced water reforms. Rowena led the consultation process that achieved key stakeholder support during the development of the Draft Regional Environmental Plan. She also managed consultation during the establishment of the Sydney Water Catchment Authority and the making of Regulations under the Sydney Water Catchment Management Act 1998. This included formulating the Community Engagement Policy and Strategic Plan for the Sydney Catchment Authority and establishing their Regional Consultative Committees.

### **Replacement of Nuclear Research Reactor at Lucas Heights, Sydney 1997**

The original nuclear reactor was commissioned in 1958 and in 1997 was rapidly reaching the end of its operational life. It was considered obsolete technology that cannot be safely upgraded and would not be able to meet the growing demand for radiopharmaceuticals beyond 2006. The Commonwealth Government announced a proposal to build a replacement nuclear research reactor at the same location and decommission the original facility. Rowena was contracted as part of the environmental impact assessment team to engage the community in the study process. The completed Environment Impact Statement was audited by independent

authorities (Nuclear Safety Bureau/ ARPANSA) and accepted by the Commonwealth Government. The replacement facility has commenced operations.

### **Sustainable Regional Development 1996-1993**

Commonwealth funding was made available to Regional Authorities for the development of plans to stimulate local economic growth following the economic recession of the late 1980s. Rowena facilitated the social engagement in the formulation of strategic plans and regional development strategies for the Murrumbidgee, Murray Darling Catchment Management Committee, the Riverina Regional Development Board and for the Commonwealth Government for the Christmas Island Development Plan.

## ***Policy Development and Evaluation***

Integrated Analysis has been appointed to conduct independent evaluation of consultation programs as well contribute to the social research component of a range of long term studies into health service provision, environmental impacts and technology impacts. Joint research projects include:

**Austrroads** Facilitated the Austrroads Council's Environment Strategy review and national traffic road noise policy development process.

**Greystanes Estate Precinct Plan** Review of community consultation process conducted by Boral in the development of the plan for the determining authority Holroyd Council.

**National Medical Health Research Council (NHMRC)** stakeholder engagement in the development of policy discussion paper Risk and Economics in Environmental Health.

**Royal Australian College of General Practitioners:** Evaluation of National Hepatitis C Education Program

**Northern Territory Health Service:** managed stakeholder engagement in an audit of the therapeutic treatment services for intravenous drug abuse in the Northern Territory

### **NSW Environment Protection Authority**

Conducted reviews of the administration of all the statutory licensing functions within the EPA and the Local Government Authorised Officers Program.

**Department of Planning (NSW)** Produced a discussion paper Issues and Options for Developing A Community Right to Know Strategy for New South Wales (Hazardous Materials Coordinating Committee, NSW Government).

**Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)** Joint research project with ACOSS and MLB Consulting entitled "Youth Perceptions of Gambling and the Impact of Future On-Line Gambling Services on Young People."

**Referees available on request**