

South Burnett Regional Council (SBRC) was awarded an Excellence Award for Kingaroy Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) at the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) State Awards Evening on the 9th November. The category for this Excellence Award was for public works water projects over \$10 million.

Nominated by SBRC, Australia's first Nereda® Plant utilises the world leading aerobic granular sludge technology to offer more efficient sewage treatment and improved treated water quality.

SBRC commissioned Aquatec Maxcon to upgrade the aging Kingaroy WWTP in late 2014. With additional funding received by Council from the Queensland Government under its "Royalty for the Regions" program, this critical infrastructure upgrade was completed on time and within budget.

Process commissioning was recently completed on schedule in October 2016 and the plant is exceeding expectations in meeting effluent quality in its preliminary operation.

Kingaroy WWTP was designed and constructed by Aquatec Maxcon to deliver more sustainable outcomes as it uses smaller structures and consumes fewer resources in construction, thereby decreasing the capital expenditure. It also requires less energy and chemicals during operation, reducing its operational and maintenance costs.

SBRC Water and Wastewater Manager, Nerida Airs, said the project was a "great asset for the community" and "everyone involved the projects should be very proud".

This project was also a finalist in the Australian Water Association 2016 Infrastructure Project Innovation Award category.