

**DISPUTE RESOLUTION BOARD AUSTRALASIA INC**  
(ABN: 14 196 085 859)

**Eleventh Annual General Meeting: 12 November 2014**  
**DRBF Region 3 President's Report**

**DRBF REGION 3 OVERVIEW 2013/2014**

***DRBF Executive Board***

From October 2013 to October 2014, our **Graham Easton** has served his term as President of the Dispute Resolution Board Foundation Executive Board. During that time, Graham has implemented a number of new policies and administrative changes that will hold the DRBF in good stead for the future. In his role as President, Graham has travelled the globe speaking at several DRBF regional conferences and meeting DRBF members in many countries. In 2015, Graham will continue to serve on the DRBF Executive Board, as Past-President.

***DRBF AI Mathews Award***

At the DRBF Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada on 25 October 2014, our **Ron Finlay** was awarded the AI Mathews Award. This Award is the DRBF's highest honour and is given each year in recognition of outstanding efforts in the promotion of Dispute Board concepts and processes, together with longstanding service and generous support for the DRBF. Ron now enters the DRBF's 'Hall of Fame' alongside Graeme Peck, the only other DRBF Region 3 member to have achieved this status.

***DRBF Region 3***

From 1 January 2013, the former Dispute Resolution Board Australasia Inc (**DRBA**) became DRBF Region 3, as the governing body for Australia and New Zealand.

Shortly thereafter, the name of DRBA was formally changed to DRBF Region 3 Inc (incorporated under the NSW Associations Incorporation Act).

***Membership***

I am pleased to report that, as at 30 September 2014 there were 121 members.

***DRBF Region 3 Board***

The following were confirmed as elected at the AGM in December 2013:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representation</b>
Don Charrett	Victoria
Lindsay Le Compte	Member representing Australian Constructors Association
Spencer Flay	Western Australia and South Australia
Alan McLennan	Queensland

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representation</b>
Michael Weatherall	New Zealand
Barry Tozer	Member representing Principals/Agencies
Tim Sullivan	New South Wales
Ron Finlay	New South Wales
Doug Jones	New South Wales
Dick Kell (alternate Megan Motto)	Member representing Consult Australia

In accordance with the amended Constitution, the immediate Past President, Graeme Peck, continued as an ex officio member of the Board.

At the DRBF Region 3 Board meeting following the AGM, the following executive positions were elected:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
President:	Doug Jones
Vice-President:	Alan McLennan
Secretary/Treasurer:	Ron Finlay
Past President:	Graeme Peck
DRBF Country Representative Co-Ordinator	Graham Easton

### ***Current, new and pending Dispute Board Projects***

All Members have been provided with summaries of the DRBF's activities in the various Australian States and New Zealand.

Transport for New South Wales (**TfNSW**) has recently awarded a PPP Contract for the NorthWest Rail Link OTS Project to NRT Pty Limited and a DAB has been appointed to that Project. So far as we are aware, this is the first PPP Project in Australia where a DAB has been appointed.

NSW Roads & Maritime Services (**RMS**) has achieved the distinction of being the most extensive user of DABs in Australia.

## **OUTREACH & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### ***SOCL Seminar – 11 February 2014***

Doug Jones and Ron Finlay were speakers at a SOCL seminar held by video conference on 11 February 2014, with representatives from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Newcastle, Auckland and Hong Kong in attendance.

### ***Canberra IAMA Seminar – February 2014***

Tim Sullivan shared a session at an IAMA meeting in Canberra on 20 February 2014 to discuss DABs.

### ***Chartered Institute of Arbitrators***

Barry Tozer was responsible for DRBF Region 3's input into the new Rules for DABs, recently published by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators.

### ***Standards Australia***

John Sharkey has led DRBF Region 3's representations to the rewriting of Standards Australia's standard suite of construction contracts. John Sharkey reports that it is Standards Australia's expectation that an "optional DAB" provision will come out of the process and be included in the next Standards Australia suite of contracts.

### ***DRBF Region 3 Website***

The DRBF Region 3 website (still under the domain name [www.drba.com.au](http://www.drba.com.au)) has recently been extensively overhauled and modernised. Thanks go to DRBF Region 3 Board members Graeme Peck and Barry Tozer, as well as our other volunteers.

### ***TfNSW Client Survey***

In April 2014, DRBF Region 3 conducted a survey with TfNSW representatives and responded to a number of requests for clarification of DRBF policy, practices and procedures. This was a very valuable exercise with one of our major users.

### ***DRBF International Conference 2014***

The DRBF International Conference (hosted by Region 2) was held in Singapore in May 2014. A number of Region 3 members were speakers at the conference which was hailed as a success.

### ***DRBF International Conference 2015***

The next DRBF International Conference (hosted by Region 2) will be held in Genoa, Italy on 21-23 May 2015.

### ***RMS DAB Member Workshop – October 2014***

Because of the extensive use of DABs by RMS, the DRBF Region 3 Board determined to host a Continuous Improvement Workshop with all current serving RMS DAB members (12 in total). This Workshop was conducted with the informed consent and support of both RMS and the various Contractors involved in those projects and each of RMS and the Contractors provided valuable feedback to a questionnaire published prior to the Workshop.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

At the 2 December 2013 AGM, the Members approved changes to the DRBA's Rules (which have become the Constitution of the Association).

A copy of the new Constitution is published with this report.

## **DRBF REGION 3 BUSINESS PLAN**

The current Business Plan adopted by the Region 3 Board provides for the following objectives:

- (a) continue to promote membership of DRBF, with the intention of maintaining membership in the range 100-120 members;

- (b) expand membership in WA and New Zealand;
- (c) promote advanced training workshops for potential DRB/DAB members;
- (d) in addition to ad hoc promotion of DBs in seminars, workshops and other pre-arranged functions, continue to promote the use of DBs directly with potential clients in both the public and private sectors;
- (e) to develop an Outreach Program, for further promotions in South East Asia in 2015 in conjunction with the DRBF Region 2 and Executive Boards;
- (f) to make provision for meetings of members in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne for a short presentation or workshop, followed by dinner/drinks, to improve networking and collegiality;
- (g) to produce a regular (quarterly) eNewsletter;
- (h) to maintain an involvement in all DRBF Task Forces (training, outreach, PPP and the like).

### **DRBA FINANCIALS**

You will see from the Financial Report provided with the AGM papers that DRBA/Region 3 continues to be in a sound financial position and utilises its funds primarily for the promotion of DRBF Region 3's core activities.

**Doug Jones**  
**President**  
**DRBF Region 3**

**November 2014**