

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES



Circular: 63/20
Ref: Rostering Dispute Update
3/07/2020

Rostering Dispute Update

Dear members,

This Tuesday I met with Aurizon Bulk East GM – Sarah Dixon, to discuss the AFULE disputes on foot and a way forward to resolution. I also invited officials of the RTBU to attend and to be involved.

As a result of this meeting, the company have written to us to agree to commencing a trial within the Hughenden, Rockhampton and Maryborough depots. Details of the trial are as followed;

- A six week trial
- Rosters are to be built to 70% of employees known workings (7 out of 10 starts will be placed into your master roster, 3 out of 10 starts will be Available)
- Remove Blank Days and replace with either ex days or RDO's
- AFULE & RTBU officials are invited to be in person to assist local roster committees develop master rosters
- Hughenden & Maryborough are to be assigned 3 days to complete the development of new master rosters, Rockhampton – 5 days.

The markers for success (or not) of the proposed trial;

- Traincrew moral increases due to more known workings and short term personal leave reduces
- No large increases of train cancellations due to Traincrew unavailability
- Wage costs remain stagnant or decrease

We are confident that these trials will be successful, and we deem them a positive path forward to resolving the current disputes and ensuring our members have the stable rosters that were voted on within the 2019 Enterprise Agreement. The alternative to these trials involves drawn out legal proceedings (which the AFULE reserves the right to re-enter if necessary).

Importantly, we need these trails to commence as its earliest opportunity, prove successful and then roll out rosters for the remaining Bulk depots. We have also emphasised repeatedly to the business to concentrate on route competence within individual depots. We will not accept members being coerced or bullied into signing for routes that they do not feel competent in, however, we do support designated training plans that set our members up for success to attain the required knowledge for the routes.

Improved route competence in individual depots is the key to stable rosters, hopefully the penny has dropped for the company with this fact also.

Traincrew representing Traincrew

Over the coming days I will continue discussions with the RTBU and Aurizon Bulk to forge a way ahead and bring roster committees together ASAP.

I endeavour to keep you updated as the process continues.

For more information please contact your state office on 3844 9163 or statesecretary@afule.org.au

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mick McKittrick', written over a solid black horizontal line.

Mick McKittrick,
State Secretary