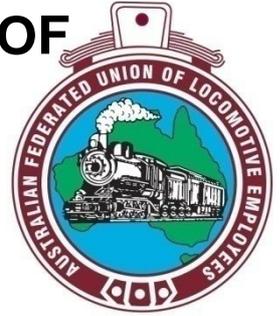


# AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES



Circular: 74/18

Ref: BMA Bargaining

16/08/2018

## BMA Bargaining Update

Dear Traincrew,

Tuesday the AFULE and RTBU state officials along with your local reps met with BMA and Commissioner Spencer from the Fair Work Commission for conciliated bargaining at the Mackay courthouse.

You would all be aware that this has been a difficult negotiation, with the company showing very little to no appetite to improve conditions or re-word clauses that currently are not used but are a threat for members going forward.

Although the Commission cannot enforce movement from BMA, yesterday we had improved communication and a more open discussion than what we have had for some time.

After Tuesday's conciliation the company has agreed to re-look at wording clauses sought; including what happens in the event an employee works beyond 1976 hours in the year, how TOIL days are taken, how supervisors leave affects traincrew leave availability, and Christmas time off equity.

Another clause in focus is in regards to the company directing employees to work on their rostered off periods and it is the unions focus to remove or tighten this very ambiguous clause that is currently in your agreement.

The unions are also seeking roster improvement provisions particularly around your last shift of a swing and pushing for either a hard finish time on the last shift or an AM/PM notation. To date the company is still not agreeable to our proposed changes but are willing to consider our proposed wording.

Along with agreeing to send both unions draft proposed clauses for the above over the coming days, BMA have also agreed to go back to the well and see if there is any more room to move with regards to a fair pay increase. The majority of our time yesterday was, however, spent on condition improvements.

No agreement has been reached on any of these items yet and there are still other items from our log that can and will be discussed if movement is not made on the above mentioned.

Going forward, the company and both unions will exchange proposed wording of clauses with a report back meeting set with Commissioner Spencer on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August.

**Traincrew representing Traincrew**

As you would all be aware, this has been a difficult negotiation. All reps in the room have your interests at heart and I personally wish to thank Russell Waugh for his help and professionalism within the bargaining room.

I endeavour to keep members updated as negotiations continue.

If you have any questions please contact the state office on 07 3844 9163, [statesecretary@afule.org.au](mailto:statesecretary@afule.org.au) or find us on Facebook.

In Solidarity,



Michael McKittrick  
A/State Secretary