AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES

Circular: 05/18

Ref: Drug and Alcohol Testing

2/02/2018



ONSRS Roll Out of Drug & Alcohol Testing

Dear Traincrew,

The Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) has notified the AFULE that they will be rolling out their drug and alcohol testing in Queensland to rail safety workers. The National Regulator has and currently conducts D&A testing in the other States. This testing will be in addition to each Rail Operator's D&A regime.

ONRSR will use a contractor, Medvet to conduct the testing on their behalf and will be breath and saliva samples.

The Rail Safety Worker (RSW) is liable for prosecution under the national legislation with a maximum penalty of \$10,000 if;

- 1. Presence of alcohol in the RSW's blood or a prohibited drug in saliva or blood
- 2. If a RSW is under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- 3. If a RSW refuses a test
- 4. If a RSW does not follow the direction of an authorised person egg, Medvet tester.

If a RSW returns a non-negative drug test the saliva sample will be sent for laboratory testing.

If a RSW returns non-negative breath test the Medvet tester will accompany the worker to the Police station for breath analysis.

If a non-negative breath analysis is confirmed the worker will be prosecuted under the Rail Safety National Law (Queensland) and not the Traffic Management Act, QLD

ONRSR expect the roll out to commence mid-2018.

If you have any questions, please contact our office on 07 3844 9163, email statesecretary@afule.org.au or find us on Facebook.

Yours fraternally

Greg Smith State Secretary