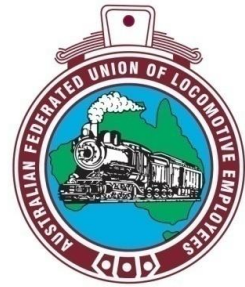


AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES



Circular: 66/23
Ref: WATCO EA
13/10/2023

WATCO Enterprise Bargaining Update

Dear Members,

This week your workplace bargaining representatives again met with WATCO in an attempt to further your claims and find an agreed position for your new Enterprise Agreement.

Discussions this week focussed on two key issues:

- The company incision within the proposed EA of multiple Barracks workings.
- Proposed Lift Up/ Lay Back (LU/LB) provisions and associated payments.

It is important to note that negotiations are ongoing and that no agreement is reached by either party unless there is an agreement on the entire package.

In relation to the multiple Barracks workings – the company has on a “without prejudice” basis abandoned this claim and is therefore currently seeking no alteration to the wording found within your 2019 Agreement in relation to multiple Barracks workings.

The parties left bargaining this week still apart when it comes to LU/LB. The feedback we have received from our membership has been mixed. Some members do not want LU/LB at all. Some are agreeable to LU/LB so long as there is fair compensation.

Before leaving bargaining this week, your workplace representatives provided WATCO a position on LU/LB that provided the company the Day of Ops flexibility they say they desperately need however, secures Traincrew addition notice of proposed Operational Roster Changes and an increased payment to that which was proposed (altered hours paid at 50%) within the recently voted down Enterprise Agreement.

The ball is in WATCO's court as we await their response however, the call is growing louder from the AFULE membership to seriously consider making an application for Protected Industrial Action (PIA) in the event WATCO do not quickly come to a fair outcome for their employees.

If you are not a member of the AFULE, now is the time to join. If your workmates have been toying with the idea of joining the AFULE, please encourage your workmates to unite.

You can join the AFULE by clicking this [link](#)

Or by visiting www.afule.org.au

**The AFULE will continue to fight and advocate for WATCO Traincrew members.
Together we can deliver real change.**

If you have any questions, please contact your state office on 3844 9163, email traincrew@afule.org.au or contact your local AFULE representative.

Traincrew representing Traincrew

In Solidarity,

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

Mick McKittrick,
State Secretary