

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES

Circular: 39/21
Ref: Coal South DOO
17/06/2021



AFULE Coal South DOO/ Trainguard Dispute

Dear members,

Last week I informed you that the AFULE commenced a dispute with Aurizon regarding their failure to properly consult on new or expanded DOO territories.

The company informed your state office that they did not need to comply with Cl. 55 of your EA (DOO) because they were intending to risk assess DOO with train stop technology...

Which was interesting because the AFULE state office has not been formally consulted on any train stop technology in Coal South.

We then immediately commenced a second dispute on the grounds that Aurizon have failed in their obligations under the Act and the EA to consult on a major workplace change (Trainguard).

We were then told that the company have not made a definite decision to implement Trainguard and would consult with us if and when they decided they would implement it. Strangely though, the only attachment with that reply from the company was a Trainguard implementation timeline dating back to 2018 with many completed and upcoming milestones including "June '20 – Business Decision to deploy" and "Nov '21 - Regulator Approval". That sounds like there has been a definite decision made, right?!?

Additionally, during this process we have found that Aurizon have made changes to their Safety Management System (a governing document requiring regulator approval) once again without any consultation per the Act or the mandated regulatory requirements.

It really is a cluster...

Today I wrote to the Coal South GM to escalate our consultation disputes. We have upcoming meetings planned to discuss our disputes. In the event Aurizon do not agree to adopt the AFULE demands in regard to consultation and transparency, we will not hesitate to seek the assistance of the Fair Work Commission to resolve our concerns.

I will provide a further update as this process continues.

In Solidarity,

Mick McKittrick,
State Secretary

Traincrew representing Traincrew