



Reference: 11/C501/RH:HB

2^{8th} October 2011

C I R C U L A R

To: All RTBU Locomotive RailCorp Members

Re: RailCorp Train Crew Reform – Update 3

Members are advised that on Tuesday 25th October the Locomotive Division had 3 meetings in succession with RailCorp relating to 2 RailCorp Train Crew Reform agenda items and 1 item relating to Clause 13 of the RailCorp EA as follows:

Train Crew Reform Items

1. Newcastle Service Centre

We arranged to have Newcastle Delegates Steve Harper and Rodney Short in attendance.

RailCorp gave us a brief document and overview of their proposal which is to reduce the current 3 x 2 driver shifts per day to 1 x 2 driver shift and 1 x 2.5 hour driver and guard shift which would impact the Newcastle Depot. Concerns were raised by the Division and after some discussion the agreed way forward is that Rodney and Steve took the document with them and they will put together all the issues / problems associated with the proposal and all the operational concerns which they believe RailCorp has not thought of or has chosen to ignore.

Another meeting has been arranged with RailCorp for the 7th November and following this meeting and at a date to be set; a risk based task analysis will be conducted in Newcastle with Rodney, Steve, Keith McMahon and others.

As part of this project RailCorp is also proposing to remove and change a number of the "STOP" boards in the service centre to make it work and this will also now form part of the risk based analysis.

2. Sectorisation and Sign On / Off

This meeting was for RailCorp to advise us what they had decided as the way forward on the sectorisation and sign on / off proposals, which we had previously advised them we did not believe they could do under the EA. They advised us that they are going to make application to FWA for a hearing on Clause 14 of the EA, specifically around what is a condition of employment as covered by the EA and also the application of Clauses 126 – Excess

Travelling Time, Clause 127 – Travelling Time and Clause 135.2 – Sector Crewing where Train Crew are concerned.

We expect to be before FWA initially for Conciliation but ultimately a full Hearing in FWA will occur. We have advised RailCorp that we (the RTBU) would not be available until the week commencing the 28th November due to other commitments and the availability of personnel. RailCorp are considering this but at time of writing RailCorp had not agreed our date availability advice.

In short no real surprises as such, but the FWA hearing outcome is a significant matter for not only the RTBU but all Unions who have signed the EBA as Clause 14 is common to all Employees not just Train Crew.

Clause 13 RailCorp EA Item

1. 2nd Preparation

RailCorp gave a brief overview of their initial proposal on removing the 2nd preparation for both ETR and InterCity trains which we did not discuss in any detail as we had no delegates there. We had nominated 2 ETR Delegates to be in attendance but they were not released to attend. We had not arranged for an InterCity delegate to be there as we were not aware they were going to include InterCity in this item, so we advised that at future meetings we will nominate an InterCity Delegate to be in attendance with the ETR Delegates.

A further meeting will be arranged, although no date has yet been set.

We have requested RailCorp to provide the justification documents that support this proposal and they have agreed to supply these prior to the next meeting.

Members will be kept informed on these and other Train Crew Reforms issues as and when information becomes available.

Yours fraternally



ROBERT HAYDEN
DIVISIONAL SECRETARY