pn nsw coal ea 2012



members' information newsletter

Meeting Number Four

The company and your Negotiating Team met again on Tuesday 28th at Parramatta.

The company briefly expanded on their claims to the extent that we now have some understanding of the rationale and extent of their claims.

As the RTBU has consistently stated, the claims that are presently placed on the table by the RTBU, may not be the full extent of the changes we require and we reserve the right to add or remove claims as needed up to the time an "in principle agreement" has been reached. The company then ask for explanations for some of the RTBU claims now on the table (because of illness there was no representation from Support Staff and Maintainers so no discussions took place on those clauses) so the RTBU complied and expanded on the rest of the clauses.

The company stated they would have further discussions between themselves on some of the clauses to come up with a more substantial position on them and others they needed to do costing but seemed to outright reject some causes i.e blood donations in special leave and extending the picnic day entitlement to all employees.

The Company have also stated that they do not believe that the following clauses should be included in the EA as they are covered by Company Policy: Alcohol and Drug Testing, Discipline Process, Managing Fatigue, Communications Monitoring, which the RTBU does not agree with.

They also expressed the view that they had not been advised that there was a previously agreed understanding between all 3 Business Groups that there would be a common expiry date for all Agreements of the 30/06/2015 and that this may be extended to 30/06/2016 should all Business Groups reach an agreement which provides for an outcome which satisfies both parties claims and is agreed to be both parties.

PN agreed to provide their formal response on this in writing, and should the response not be as previously agreed the RTBU will be left with no option but to review our position in relation to the negotiations for all Business Groups.

It has been the RTBU's position from the start that one day meetings make it extremely difficult to fully engage in negotiations and that 2 days were our preferred option, we therefore suggested that the next meeting be held over 2 days (14th & 15th March 2012). The company then suggested that we met next week but as anyone who reads the Union calendar on the Locoexpess web site would know, next week is Divisional Council, in which most of your Negotiating Team is involved, so that suggestion could not be accepted but the acknowledgement of the need to lift the tempo was understood and appreciated.

The RTBU still maintains that a meeting on the 14th & 15th March at the RTBU National Offices at Redfern is our preferred option and are waiting on the company's reply. It would be our intention also at that meeting to firm up future dates to schedule meetings.

As always you will be kept up to date by your Negotiating Team.

For Information go to www.locoexpress.com.au click on PN EAs

Your EA Negotiating Team

Allan Nutley
Wayne Pallant
Greg Brooking
Dale Walsham
Greg Cameron
Bob Hayden
Ian Wyllie
Steve Wright
John Curley

Additional Depot Delegates will be included, when Depot Specific items are being negotiated.

Proposed Meetings

DATE

VENUE

14th/15th March

Redfern

Are Your Details Up To Date

Members are reminded that it is vitally important that your mailing address, phone numbers & email address are up to date – Contact:

Steve Wright at swright@rtbu-nsw.asn.au or 0418 699 642 to ensure everything is correct

Do you want to receive updates sent directly to you? Email your personal email address (no work addresses) to

pncoalea@rtbu-nsw.asn.au