



RTBU

RAIL, TRAM & BUS UNION AUSTRALIA

AURIZON MEMBERS' NEWSFLASH #4

***Company refuses to finalise a deal.
A non-union agreement to be put to a vote.
We urge Members to VOTE NO!***

Your Union met with Aurizon management on Wednesday May 29 for continuing discussions for the proposed Enterprise Agreement. The negotiations, however, reached an impasse and the company says it is intending, for the second time, to put out a **non-union** agreement for employees to vote on.

We urge all Members to VOTE NO to this non-union agreement.

The company had walked out of the previous meeting on May 16 and 17, but after the RTBU initiated correspondence to restart good faith bargaining, they agreed to one more meeting.

Unfortunately matters reached an impasse at this meeting relating to the following issues:

- **Minimum home rest breaks in the grain area to be reduced from 12 to 11 hours.** This is a fundamental and significant backwards step in a hard won condition that effects the health and safety rights of Members, and will open the door for minimum rest breaks to be reduced across the country.
- **A wage offer of 4% for each year of the 4 year agreement.** Your Negotiating Team, after feedback from the Membership, believes that Aurizon Intermodal wage rates need to be lifted to the industry standard for freight operators and the company's offer does not achieve that.
- **An improved redundancy clause with stronger wording, and an increase from 3 to 4 weeks pay for 2 or more years of continuous service.** Following reports in the media attributed to financial analysts, which indicate financial problems with Aurizon Intermodal, we sought protection of the entitlements of the Membership.

They continue to refuse to accept that we are determined to defend important conditions.

Your Union is willing to continue to negotiate in good faith to get a fair and reasonable outcome, but it appears that the company is no longer willing to do the same.

Your Negotiating Team, after consultation with the Membership, is recommending you VOTE NO to this non-union agreement.

Please call the RTBU National Office on 02 8209 6099 if you have any feedback or questions.

Your Negotiating Team