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Transport & Communication Workers' Unions Industrial Federation

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National Secretary
Australian Rail, Tram and Bus Industry Union/RTBU/
Suite 210
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AUSTRALIA

Date 27 February 2014

Ref.No:- ETCWF 203/14

Dear Comrade Nanva


Rail Operator Aurizon Locks Out Striking Drivers in the NSW Hunter Valley

On behalf of the Ethiopian Transport & Communication Workers' Unions Industrial Federation (ETCWF), we would like to express our solidarity & support for the Rail, Tram and Bus Industry Union (RTBU), in your strike action against Aurizon; Australia's largest rail freight company.

The ETCWF was informed that around 200 drivers went on strike on 25 February, effectively shutting down Aurizon's operation for three days after pay talks that started in May 2013 stalled. The industrial action was supported by 94 percent of the workforce. Instead of coming to an agreement company of decided to lock out striking drivers from 27 February 2014 today.

The ETCWF fully support this protest action & urge company to resolve the current issues through meaningful negotiations & stop its attacks on company workers.

Yours fraternally,


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ZERIHUN ALEMU
PRESIDENT



- Mac Urata, ITF Inland Transport Section Secretary
- Mahendra Sharma, ITF Asia Pacific Regional Secretary
- Joseph K. Katende, ITF Africa Regional Secretary