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Saturday, August 13, 2016

Combined Unions ARTC NSW Enterprise Agreement Negotiations Newsletter 25

UPDATE

Members as you would have seen throughout the week, contrary to members request for ARTC to return to the negotiation table, they have instead embarked on a path of deceit along with the Federal Government in an effort to discredit its employees and their unions in the public arena. We first saw the disgraceful action of the CEO agreeing to meet with the negotiating team, reporting the meeting to employees in the morning then changing his position in the afternoon.

We then saw an extraordinary press release from the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Darren Chester (Nationals) who attacked ARTC Workers and the RTBU National Secretary. Part of Minister Chester's spray stated;

"The Rail Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) should stop misleading its members, stop disrupting the lives of rail commuters and freight companies, and return to the negotiating table with the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC)"

Perhaps Mr Fullerton told Minister Chester something different to what he told the unions when he reneged on his agreement to meet. We Invite Minister Chester to bring ARTC along with him to the negotiating table; we are ready when he is! We say come and talk to us! It's also of note that Minister Chester's press release seems to be now missing from his web site.

ARTC seem to have no intention to talk to us instead continuing their rhetoric and propaganda to their employees, trying to convince them to vote to accept their reduced offer. On that basis we have no option but to continue with the only tool available to us, and that is more protected action. Members are advised to continue enforcement of current bans in place and prepare for further actions. ARTC have been advised of several more planned protected actions. (table of actions attached)

Member meetings to seek endorsement of future actions are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday as per the attached Meeting Notice.

Please, if you have not voted, please do so now and **Vote No**. The company only needs to win by one vote to get their abysmal EA offer locked in.

Authorised: **Alex Claassens**
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On behalf of the Combined Unions

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