



**RTBU**

# PACIFIC NATIONAL

## BULLETIN

7 NOVEMBER 2016

# Pacific National Scope

As you may be aware, Pacific National and the RTBU have filed applications in the Fair Work Commission which together cover the scope of the following proposed agreements:

- Pacific National NSW Coal
- Pacific National Victoria Bulk Rail
- Pacific National Bulk Rail (NSW)
- Pacific National Intermodal Train Crew

We are pleased to say that despite a Hearing being listed for next week, the RTBU has reached agreement and secured the following for members:

## **NSW Bulk Rail and Coal Agreements**

In order to present a more unified and powerful group, the RTBU has successfully negotiated the combining of the NSW Bulk and NSW Coal agreements. Pacific National will enter negotiations with us on the basis that the NSW Bulk and NSW Coal agreements are to be combined.

It is important to appreciate that combining these agreements is a significant undertaking and we have brought Pacific National to the table to make it happen. Both parties have reserved their right to reapply to the Commission if there is something during discussions that prevents us combining them successfully.

This is a huge win for the union and its members. Combining these two agreements, when negotiated successfully, will empower our membership and allow them to act with one voice.

## ***Maintainers***

The RTBU is finalising negotiations with Pacific National on a mechanism to enhance the conditions of the Maintainers currently covered by the NSW Coal Agreement. Once we finalise these separate negotiations, if the NSW Coal Maintainers agree, their conditions will improve immediately. At a future point these Maintainers will be moved to the Infrastructure and Asset Services Agreement so that they can be part of a bigger Maintainer bargaining collective.

This is win for the NSW Coal Maintainers who can enjoy better conditions in the very near future.



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### **Support Staff**

Administrative, supervisory, technical and professional classifications (Support Staff) covered under the current NSW Coal and NSW Bulk agreements will continue to be covered by the proposed combined NSW agreement.

Initially, Pacific National proposed to remove these employees from the NSW agreements and we have ensured that they remain protected.

### **Intermodal Agreement**

Given the success on combining the NSW agreements, the RTBU have agreed to drop any claim regarding the Intermodal Agreement and its scope therefore will remain unchanged. The Intermodal Agreement is quite strong as it stands and already has a national focus.

We will of course ensure we get everything that we can for these members at the bargaining table.

### **Victorian Bulk Rail Agreement**

The proposed Victorian Bulk Rail agreement will be limited to employees who work predominately in Victoria.

The Train Crew based in NSW who are currently covered by the Victorian Agreement will be covered by the proposed combined NSW agreement making them part of the larger voice that results. When we enter negotiations for the proposed NSW agreement we will pay special attention to the needs of these members throughout the negotiation process.

Until the NSW Agreement is implemented these employees will continue to be covered by the current Victorian Agreement.

### **Next Steps**

Although the parties have agreed, we are working through the paperwork which we hope to have completed shortly. Once finalised, the bargaining process will commence.