



### **PN Coal negotiations go back to Fair Work Commission**

PN Coal negotiations will continue in the Fair Work Commission after Minister for Workplace Relations, Bill Shorten, stepped in to help resolve the current dispute.

This follows numerous requests from the RTBU for Pacific National to continue negotiations in order to reach an agreement.

PN Coal has either refused, or not even responded, to every request from the union to come back to the negotiating table and has made it very clear at every opportunity they would only agree to consent/binding arbitration and refused to increase their 4 per cent wage offer, only decrease it.

It would seem that the company has now agreed, after the intervention of the Minister, to return to the negotiation table with the assistance of Fair Work Commission.

We are hopeful that following the Minister's intervention PN Coal will now genuinely seek to resolve the outstanding matters and acknowledge that their employees have already overwhelmingly rejected the company's proposed agreement.

Members at PN Coal deserve an agreement that offers fair wages and conditions. The rejected agreement certainly didn't provide that.

While the company continues to intimidate members with letters and threats of disciplinary action against members for simply enforcing their legal rights and the current EA rostering conditions, members are even more determined to achieve an outcome which resolves the outstanding issues.

So far the company's actions are not conducive to a company genuinely seeking to reach an outcome with their employees. Let's hope Pacific National's attitude changes.

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## **Negotiation Not *Intimidation***