



# FOOTPLATE

## NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH / LOCOMOTIVE DIVISION

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### **ARTC Strike Action Payments**

NSW Trains Drivers will be aware of the recent strike action over the ARTC Enterprise Agreement negotiations resulting in the cancellation of numerous NSW Trains train services, particularly within regional NSW.

NSW Trains management advised delegates at the recent NSW Trains forum to submit their timesheets with details of their rostered working and they would be paid accordingly.

That commitment has now been overturned by senior NSW Trains management and Employee Relations who will now only pay the 8hr non subject payment as per the Credit Sheet entitlement.

Additionally, they have cited their obligation under the NSW Trains EA to only pay the Guarantee Payment entitlement and refused to consider payment of penalty rates, mileage payments and barracks detention.

The reasoning behind this decision is that Regional drivers could not operate services and therefore stayed at home during the strike action, a decision that was not theirs to make and was in fact directed by management.

Whereas the RTBU cannot force NSW Trains to make payments outside of this EA, it would naturally be expected that this business would respect the continued commitment of its drivers and respond accordingly to a situation that was beyond their control to influence.

As is known, particularly within regional depots, train services are continually operated with a large amount of good will displayed by employees, a position that is now obviously not shared or appreciated by management.