



NEWSFLASH

RTBU ISSUE NO.28 PN NSW Bulk Rail EA October 26, 2017

RTBU LOCOMOTIVE DIVISION • ENGAGING MEMBERS • ENSURING A FUTURE

PN NSW BULK RAIL EA 2017 FWC and Action Update

Fair Work Commission Update

Your RTBU team was in the Fair Work Commission for conciliation yesterday to get bargaining for your Pacific National Bulk Rail Enterprise Agreement back on track.

In that meeting we made some progress on setting out a way forward on negotiations. Unfortunately, the process was halted when Pacific National management insisted at the last minute that they would only participate in a fair process if RTBU members withdrew their notice for a 48 hour stoppage this weekend.

Recommendation from Your Delegates

Your delegates met today and decided,

This delegates meeting notes the following recommendation of the Fair Work Commission:

- 1) That the negotiations are divided into 3 groups: A (Common Conditions), B (Bulk) and C (Coal) as to bargain more efficiently. These groups will meet either simultaneously or as close together as possible.*
- 2) That the Bulk and Coal conditions are not combined but sit behind a common section (Part A) in a combined EA.*
- 3) That no further protected industrial action is taken over the next three weeks to ensure efficient bargaining (including the 48-hour stoppage set to commence at midday on Saturday 28 October 2017).*

This delegates group also notes that:

- 1. Pacific National management has consistently tried to undermine any collective strength or solidarity that exists between us;*

Authorised: Robert Hayden, Secretary NSW Branch Locomotive Division.
Rail, Tram and Bus Union, Level 4, 321 Pitt Street Sydney, NSW 2000

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- 2. We bargained for 1 Agreement for 10 months with Pacific National without taking industrial action, only for them to move the goal posts at the 11th hour and undercut any trust we may have developed in the process;*
- 3. Efficient bargaining cannot occur if there is a huge difference in power between the parties and protected industrial action is one of the few ways for us as workers to exercise collective strength when dealing with this multi-million dollar company.*

Therefore this delegates meeting resolves to,

- 1. Proceed with the 48 hour stoppage as planned;*
- 2. Empower the Locomotive Freight Executive team to decide when future protected industrial action will be notified for during the remaining time of our protected action ballot order; and*
- 3. Advise the Fair Work Commission that while we are not prepared to withdraw our planned 48 hour stoppage, as a sign of good faith we will defer any further protected industrial action for a period of 2 weeks from 12pm Monday 30/10/17 if Pacific National makes the same commitment to the negotiation process/structure recommended by the Fair Work Senior Deputy President.*

What Does This Mean?

The 48 hour work stoppage starting on Saturday at midday will still go ahead. You should speak with your delegate about what will happen at your depot and your depot contact person if you will be on a train when the stoppage kicks off.

Watch your emails, phone and Loco Express for further updates. Together, we can win an Agreement that secures jobs and fair conditions.

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