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EA Update: Extension of Protected Industrial Action

Members are advised that the RTBU has successfully applied for an extension of the period in which RTBU members who work for Sydney and NSW Trains are able to take protected industrial action. This follows the six-week suspension period, during which Sydney and NSW Trains decided to take a copy of the EA to all members for a vote.

Following the filing of an application with the Fair Work Commission, the RTBU prepared for a hearing in the event that our application to extend the period in which we may take employee claim action/lawful industrial action was challenged by the employer. It was anticipated that the RTBU would need to attend the Commission and make arguments as to why we should – under the Act – be permitted to extend this period. The application was not opposed.

What this means is that - should either the Sydney Trains EA or the NSW Trains EA be voted down in the ballot – RTBU members will retain the right to engage in protected industrial action up until 24 April 2018 (as opposed to the initial end date of 25 March 2018).

The RTBU Locomotive Division will keep members of informed of any further updates in relation to either the Sydney or NSW Trains EA, as well as any other news concerning protected industrial action. In the interim, please do not hesitate in contacting your local delegate or the RTBU on (02) 9264 3400 should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above.

Authorised by ROBERT HAYDEN Divisional Secretary

RAIL, TRAM & BUS UNION – NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH LOCOMOTIVE DIVISION PHONE: (02) 9264 3400 DEPT: 9 1347 FAX: (02) 9264 7679 WEBSITE: <u>www.rtbu-locomotive.asn.au</u> EMAIL: <u>nswloco@rtbu-nsw.asn.au</u>