



November 12, 2018

Southern Shorthaul Railway – EA Update

As you are aware from the last Newsflash, SSR management stated that they will respond via email to all the concerns raised at the last meeting by Monday 5th November. To date, we have not received any response to the concerns raised with SSR Management regarding your Enterprise Agreement.

We would also like to note that SSR management has sent out an SSR update to their employees. This update is very concerning in relation to a few issues.

SSR management has stated that the RTBU Locomotive Division Newsflash (dated 31 October 2018) was incorrect in that the proposed one-off payment will not accrue onto wages. However, if you look at the proposed EA in Columns A, B & C in the Table (Clause 16.3), you will note that it only shows the current rate of pay, the first increase of 3.33%, three subsequent rate increases of 2% and the payment of 1.33% and 2% from October 2016 and 2017 (which is not a part of the base rate increases). You will also remember that at all EA meetings, it was outlined by SSR that the one-off payments were not to accrue onto wages, but that it would be a one-off payment, made 'in good faith' if you voted yes to the proposed EA.

Another concerning issue is the comparison of SSR's closest competitor QUBE. You will note that this employee update only talks about the comparison between wages. It doesn't talk about QUBE's conditions: notably, their RDO's (Duty-Free Days), their duty cycle of 2 weeks, the ability to earn overtime after their rostered shift and conditions that improve a better work/life balance (to name a few).

The RTBU NSW Locomotive Division and members are extremely outraged at the way in which the company's update was written, in that it is implied that not accepting the company's pay offer would lead to redundancies. This is a threat, made in bad faith, in order to scare members into submission.

As soon as we receive the companies' formal response as they promised to have to us by the 5th November, we will inform members so we can all decide on our next steps.

Not a member? Join today! If you have any questions, please contact the RTBU Locomotive Division on (02) 9264 3400.