



Professionals
Australia



Combined Unions ARTC NSW Enterprise Agreement Negotiations Newsletter

Protected Industrial Action Ballot is Underway

Roll of Voters Closes Tomorrow – Non-members to Join to Vote by Friday 24 June

On Tuesday the Fair Work Commission (FWC) approved a secret ballot on protected industrial action for union members covered by the ARTC NSW EA. In his decision, Deputy President Sams of the FWC noted that the Combined Unions have been genuinely trying to reach agreement in negotiations with ARTC.

The Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) is now preparing to conduct the protected action secret ballot. The AEC will post a ballot paper to union members with which you will vote (we recommend a 'yes' vote) on each of the actions listed below. Remember, voting 'yes' for the action means you are voting for the *option to access* the action. It does not mean we will take the action. Instead, each action that is voted up by members goes into our 'toolbox', and is an action we can then choose to utilise in the future.

Non-members please note that only union members are able to participate in the voting on the secret ballot for protected industrial action. **Any non-union members wishing to be involved in the vote need to join before the roll closes, on Friday 24 June.** Please contact the relevant union, this being the RTBU, ETU, Professionals Australia or ASU, asap to ensure you join in time and don't miss out on the opportunity to have a say in the vote and send a message to ARTC!

The ballot paper you receive from the AEC will ask you to vote yes or no to each of the following proposed actions;

Notification Period - 3 Days

- Indefinite or periodic actions in the form of inserting a statement authorized by the Unions, RTBU, APESMA, ASU and CEPU (ETU) into all outgoing emails, auto-reply messages and voicemail.
- Indefinite or periodic actions in the form of reading a statement authorized by the unions at the start of a media interview and responding to any questions raised by the interviewer in relation to the statement.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on using email.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on working outside the limits of the employee's position description.

Notification Period - 4 Days

- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on overtime.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on on call and call out work.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on out of hours work.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on the opening or unlocking of any key operated lock.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on the use of Work on Track Authorities.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on the amalgamation of Network Control Boards.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on the operation of signalling equipment.
- An unlimited number of periodic or indefinite bans on any task which involves travel.

Notification Period - 5 Days

- An unlimited number of 1 hour work stoppages.
- An unlimited number of 2 hour work stoppages.
- An unlimited number of 4 hour work stoppages.

Notification Period – 6 Days

- An unlimited number of 24 hour work stoppages.
- An unlimited number of 48 hour work stoppages.
- An unlimited number of 72 hour work stoppages.

We recommend you **VOTE YES** to all eighteen actions so they are available to you. *Do not restrict our options. Vote 'yes' to include all actions in our toolbox!*

Further information will be provided as matters progress. More member meetings will be scheduled shortly along with members in some areas being contacted by phone.

With strong member involvement we can make a change for the better. Talk to your work mates; participation in "Protected Action" is only open to members of the Combined Unions.

Authorised: **Alex Claassens**, NSW Secretary, Rail Tram and Bus Union, Level 4, 321 Pitt Street Sydney, NSW 2000, On behalf of the combined unions

Not a member? Don't delay - join your union and get involved now! Join online at:

www.rtbuexpress.com.au

www.etunsw.asn.au

www.professionalsaustralia.org.au

www.asumembers.org.au