



CONSTRUCTION

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Media Release

Thursday 3 September 2009 – for immediate release

AIG ‘overreach’ and interference in timber award modernisation would gratuitously hurt regional workers

The CFMEU Forestry and Furnishing Products Division has hit out at the Australian Industry Group (AIG), for making a submission to the Timber Award modernisation process that would reduce annual leave entitlements for regional timber industry workers.

CFMEU Forestry and Furnishing Divisional National Secretary Michael O’Connor said today that the AIG’s favored status in the corridors of power in Canberra had clouded the organisations judgment, such that it was now making submissions on awards where it had almost no members.

“The AIG interfered recently in the glass industry award modernization process, where they have about two members nationally, now they are doing the same thing with the timber award process, where they are not the employer peak body and represent almost literally no one.”

“The AIG clearly now feel a sense of entitlement that they can make submissions on award modernizations wherever they like, ignore industry standards, the industries employer peak bodies and simply run roughshod over everyone.”

“They are guilty of terrible over reach and clearly feel emboldened by the influence they have in Canberra.”

Mr. O’Connor said that the last minute AIG submission to the timber award modernisation used outdated and discredited Workchoices thinking to suggest to the Industrial Commission that workers under this award should lose one weeks annual leave.

“The AIG submission ignores the industry standard and gratuitously seeks to have timber shift workers in regional areas miss out on a weeks annual leave.”

Media Comment call Michael O’Connor 0418 550 831.