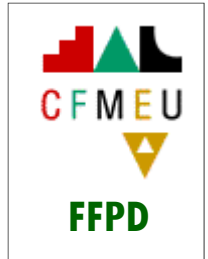


CFMEU FFPD Tasmanian District Newsletter Spring 2009



CFMEU FORESTRY AND FURNISHING PRODUCTS DIVISION

Union Agreements - THE ONLY WAY TO GET A PAY RISE

Award wages frozen

The Australian Fair Pay Commission has frozen the wages of 1.3 million low paid workers. In its final decision the Commission has ruled out any increase in the minimum wage.

The average award worker will lose about \$16 a week until the next wage decision is due in July 2010.

Union Agreements the Only Way to Go

The decision means that unless workers are unionised and organised at the workplace level and have a collective agreement in place, they will not receive a pay increase in the next 12 months.

Real wages of low paid workers have gone backwards since the Commission was established by the previous Liberal Government. This decision is another attack on their living

standards and underlines the need to have your workplace 100% unionised, because without the Union your pay would be frozen.

The Decision

In its 2009 general Wage-Setting Decision the Commission decided to:

- maintain the standard Federal Minimum Wage at \$14.31 per hour (\$543.78 per week); and
- maintain the adult rates of pay in Australian Pay and Classification Scales (pay scales) at their current levels.

The decision also applies to junior employees, employees to whom training arrangements apply, employees with disabilities, casual

employees and employees receiving basic piece rates of pay.



CONTACT THE UNION ON OUR NATIONAL FREECALL NUMBER: 1800 060 556

OR VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE www.cfmeuffpd.org.au

Union Moves on Log Exports

The CFMEU FFPD has been successful in amending the national platform of the ALP at the party's National Conference in Sydney, to minimise log exports. This will mean improved value adding and downstream processing for the timber industry.

CFMEU FFPD Tasmanian District Secretary Scott McLean said these amendments will allow for the development of a comprehensive forest plantation strategy and a national review of the impact of log exports, to ensure the long term future of forest industries.

"We are working towards an end to whole log exports from Australia."

"The Union is passionate in its advocacy for value adding and downstream processing in Australia



Scott McLean

and improving Government engagement in the industry via a national review," Scott McLean said.

"When this policy development and

industry support work is not done in an integrated way and at a national level, we get catastrophes like the closure of the Scottsdale Mill."

"Nowhere is this more evident than in the Tasmanian context, but the same can be said for the industry around Australia."

Scott said that the Union has campaigned for some time for better Federal Government support for the industry and these policy amendments would provide a platform through which this could occur.

"Our union will continue its advocacy on behalf of workers and the industry.

"We will continue to encourage downstream processing and value adding, so export of the raw timber resource is minimised," he said.

First Super follows the CFMEU FFPD's lead in using 100% Australian paper MADE BY UNION MEMBERS

First Super has over 80,000 members and 5,000 participating employers.

Staying in touch with everyone means that the fund uses a significant amount of paper products in its daily operations.

As a strong supporter of the industry, First Super is committed to using 100%

Australian made paper.

The "envi" range of carbon neutral paper from Australian Paper is made in Burnie, Tasmania to international standards and independently audited and verified.

Most importantly this paper is 100% Australian made by First Super and CFMEU FFPD members.

Union Dues

Effective from 1 November 2009

Member Category	\$ per week
Full time adult	\$8.55
Life Member	\$0.00
Unemployed	\$0.00
Parental Leave	\$0.00
Supported Wage	\$1.50
Junior/Apprentice	\$3.00
Part time less than 32 hrs pw	\$4.50
Workers Compensation - no make pay	\$4.50
Workers Compensation - Full Rate	As per standard adult rates

New Members sign up at Ta Ann following Union Safety Blitz

The Tasmanian District have been focusing on recruitment to ensure that the Union is as strong and well resourced as possible.

Twenty-one new members working on 457 visas have recently been signed up at Ta Ann. This is on top of local members employed at the plant.

The workers are located at the rotary veneer mill in Smithton and the Southwood mill.

The Union recently identified unsafe work areas at the plant and as a result, Workplace Standards Tasmania (WST) placed a series of orders on the mill.

District Secretary Scott McLean said, "Despite repeated advocacy on safety by the Union to the



Ta Ann's Smithton rotary veneer mill

we put all employers on notice that unsafe workplaces and unsafe work areas will not be tolerated by the CFMEU.

"We will take whatever action necessary to ensure that our members are protected in their workplaces."

company, almost no action had been taken. Workers expect to go to work, do their jobs and come home to their families without accident or injury.

"I understand that WST will be issuing orders to the Company to rectify a number of workplace safety issues as well as directing the Company to employ an Occupational Health and Safety Specialist.

Scott McLean continued;

"Whilst the CFMEU supports the Forest and Wood Products Industry,

Target exceeded - Union raises \$1.2 million for Bushfire Appeal

CFMEU National Secretary John Sutton has paid tribute to the generosity and community spirit of the unions membership, as ordinary workers in the forestry and furnishing industries; mining and energy industries and the construction industry collectively exceed the unions' target of a \$1 million contribution to the Victorian bushfire appeal.

"The unions membership at workplaces across Australia have responded very generously to this tragedy.

"Both our forestry and furnishing

division and our mining division lost members in the disaster, at Marysville and Callignee."

"In addition eight Forestry and Furnishing Products Division members lost their homes, whilst twelve members of our Mining and Energy Division lost their houses as well as five members of the Union's Construction Division."

"The long term viability of the timber industry in the Central Highlands and Gippsland regions is under threat due to the massive losses of both plantation and native forests."

In response to the fires, members of the CFMEU's Forestry and Furnishing Products Division voted across the country for minimum \$20 levies per member to raise funds for the appeal.

The total raised so far is \$1,025,000.



Contact your Union

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*Forestry and Furnishing
Products Division*

CHECK OUT THE UNION'S NEW WEBSITE

www.cfmeuffpd.org.au



**FIRST
SUPER**

An Industry SuperFund



ABN 42 053 498 472

Where's my Super Statement?

2008-2009 ANNUAL STATEMENTS

Members' annual statements will be completed and mailed to over 80,000 members in First Super, once the Fund has finalised its annual statutory accounts and declared and applied final investment return rates.

This process will be completed around September or early October.

Investment returns for 2008/09 will unfortunately be negative for the Growth (default), High Growth and Conservative Growth options, and positive for the Capital Stable option due

to market returns.

We will provide further information on the returns with your statements.

Members who want an estimate of their account balance can do so by accessing their account through firstonline at:

http://firstsuper.com.au/online_access.htm

or by contacting our Call Centre on 1300 360 988 to request a Benefit Quote.

Please remember that this quote may change when the final rate is applied to your account.

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