

CFMEU FFPD National 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 CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE www.cfmeuffpd.org.au

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 and staying in touch with everyone means that the fund uses a significant amount of paper products.

As a strong supporter of the our industry First Super is committed to using 100% Australian made paper to make sure that First Super supports the people who support the fund.

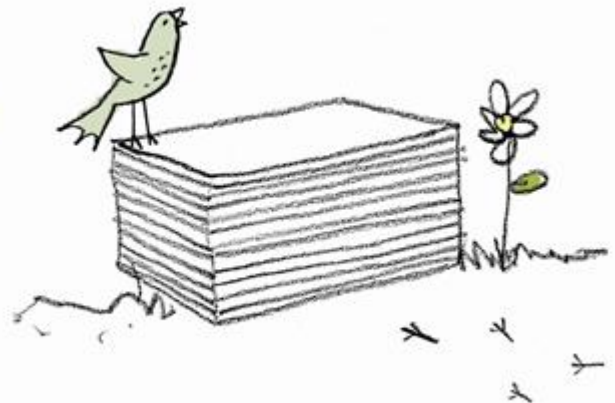
In addition to being 100% Australian made, First Super has also moved to be carbon neutral in the paper it uses.

The "Carbon neutral" paper used by First is certified Greenhouse Friendly by the Australian Government which means that the carbon emissions from the production lifecycle of the paper have been measured, verified, reduced and then offset.

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

The international standard, ISO 14040, certification of the paper life cycle covers everything from the forest to the printer, so we can be sure it carbon neutral and 100% Australian made by CFMEU FFPD and First Super members.

GO GREEN WITH
ENVITM
100% Carbon Neutral Paper



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, meaning improved value adding and down-stream 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 pushing for value adding and downstream processing in Australia and improving Government engagement in the industry via a national review."

"When this policy development and industry support work is not done in an integrated way and at a national level, we get catastrophes like timber mill closures."

The Union has campaigned for some time for better Federal Government support for the industry.

These policy amendments provide a platform through which this can occur.

Scott McLean said,

"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."

Pulp & Paper Industry Strategy Group

The Pulp and Paper Industry Strategy Group's first meeting was held in Sydney on 7 July 2009.

The primary task of the meeting was to discuss the development of an Issues Paper, for presentation to the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research by 31 July 2009.

The Strategy Group identified several themes that require ongoing work including:

- the need to communicate to investors the attractiveness of the industry in terms of the value it creates, its sustainability, and its potential for growth;
- the need to engage more effectively with the

community regarding the benefits of paper products;

- the role of technology, research and investment in adding further value to the industry to enable the development of new sustainable products and sustainable jobs; and
- understanding the role of industry support offered to overseas firms and its impact on Australian firms' ability to compete, both locally and internationally.

The meeting was addressed by Senator Kim Carr. The Strategy Group is currently finalising the Issues Paper which will be made publicly available in August.

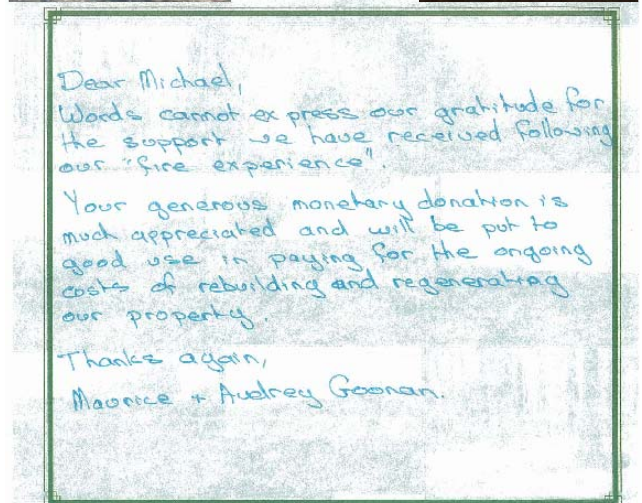
The next meeting will be held in early August in Melbourne.

Fire survivors thank Union Members for their support

Following the disastrous 2009 fires in Victoria and the Union's successful appeal, we received this letter from the Goonans of Mudgegonga.

Maurice and Audrey are not seeking any publicity but did want to pass on their thanks to our members for their wonderful display of generosity and solidarity in supporting CFMEU FFPD members who have been so severely impacted by the fires.

The CFMEU FFPD wish Maurice and Audrey well in the hard task ahead of them and thank them for their kind words.



Contact your Union

CFMEU Forestry & Furnishing Products Division Pulp & Paper Workers District

148 - 152 Miller Street West Melbourne Vic 3003

Tel: (03) 9274 9230

Fax: (03) 9274 9284

www.cfmeuffpd.org.au





*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.

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE www.cfmeuffpd.org.au