



QUEENSLAND BRANCH

# PN Coal Newsletter

AUTHORISED BY OWEN DOOGAN BRANCH SECRETARY

Level 1, 457 Upper Edward Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

Email: [info@rtbu.com.au](mailto:info@rtbu.com.au)

Phone: Public 3839 4988

14 January 2014

Dear Member

## PN Coal Qld Negotiations Update

Following on from last week's update and the very strong message being sent to PN Management that the current offer on the table will be overwhelmingly rejected by members, I formally wrote to PN Management requesting that they return to the negotiation table and continue to negotiate in good faith.

I have received immediate advice from PN Management that negotiations will recommence on Wednesday 22 and Thursday 23 January and that they "wish to continue to work towards an acceptable outcome".

HOWEVER, approximately 2 hours later I received further advice:

*"In addition to previous email, from Pacific National Queensland Coal's perspective, the bargaining process has run its course and the next stage of the process is to begin the drafting of the replacement EA.*

*It has been noted that it is your intent to seek further feedback from your members regarding the outcome of the meeting last week. The meetings have been cancelled to allow all parties to seek feedback from the workplace.*

*Arrangements will be made for the bargaining team to meet on Wednesday 22 & Thursday 23 as an opportunity for the parties to explore the four outstanding items in such a way as to provide a mutually acceptable way forward."*

Whilst your Union agrees there is certainly four MAJOR issues that need to be discussed, there are many smaller, just as important issues, that need to be discussed and agreement in principle between the parties, before any drafting of the agreement should occur.

In short it is the view of your Union that it is not worth drafting an agreement unless it has a likelihood of being accepted by the workplace, ultimately it is the members who vote to accept or reject an agreement.

Obviously the message has been loud and strong that Traincrew are less than impressed with the current package being put forward by PN Management but trying to fence in discussions to four items is not the way forward and we have advised the company that we should be discussing all outstanding issues.

Your Union has meetings scheduled this week with Traincrew to get more feedback, however, most feedback so far is that while the company is prepared to continue to negotiate then we should continue to negotiate, reviewing our position on a weekly basis.

I look forward to reporting back to members.

**Unity is Strength**

Bruce Mackie  
QLD State President