

8th October 2012

Dear Member

Notice of Dispute Issued on QRN Infrastructure

Late on Friday afternoon, Your Union issued a notice of Dispute around a serious lack of consultation with Your Union and the workforce about major roster and structural changes in Infrastructure.

Your Union was aware of a management meeting held approximately 3 weeks ago where these major changes and service delivery model was discussed, however, it was not until QRN started a round of workplace meetings last week were we able to lodge a dispute.

QRN managements attempt to bypass the consultation process set out in the enterprise agreements by starting a round of workplace meetings mid last week at which information packs were distributed and major roster changes, some outside the scope of some enterprise agreements were handed out, was a clear indication of its lack of commitment to the consultation process and this has been met with major opposition in the workplace as well as swift lodging of a dispute by Your Union. These proposed changes:

- Longer working hours
- Changes to the core hours in some agreements
- An offer of some increased remuneration for certain workers and certain times

IF this is not major workplace change, then what is? Another major issue is the fact that it appears QRN are using an opt out system of attempting to get some form of agreement, i.e. if you do not raise an issue with the proposal, it means you are happy with the proposal,

Your Union is not opposed to workplace changes and in fact have a long history in Infrastructure of being included in and being part of the decision making process of changes for the better in the workforce.

QRN have responded this morning to the dispute and it now appears that there is at least some commitment to consultation. Firstly, QRN have agreed to send copies of the proposals for us to peruse. Further, they have agreed to meet as soon as possible to discuss the proposed changes and involve workplace representatives.

This is just another attempt by QRN management to bypass the consultative process contained within your agreements and another attempt at breaking down conditions in your workplace. Members are asked to stay vigilant in the workplace for these types of issues as well as attend workplace meetings as they are arranged. Members will be kept informed as this issue progresses.

Unity is Strength

Bruce Mackie
QLD State President/Central Division Organiser
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