



QUEENSLAND BRANCH

# PN COAL NEWSLETTER

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Dear Member

## Dispute: Barracks Allowance (Update6) THANKYOU for YOUR URGENT ACTION

I refer members to the previous [5 updates](#) about the ongoing dispute over Barracks Allowance and the use of Civeo camps for barracks jobs in Dysart.

So far we have had two conciliations with Commissioner Spencer. The most recent of which was a vigorous two hour debate over whether the Barracks Allowance was for meals or not. Following on from that, the argument was - if PN supplies meals do they still need to pay the allowance?

There is no clear winner in this case. Both parties' think they are right and hence we have gone to the referee but as we have always said, going to the referee is never a sure thing for either party and in this case that rings very true.

As a result of the Commissioner's desire for the parties to keep talking, PN placed on the table a without prejudice offer to pay an INCIDENTAL allowance. This was conveyed to you in [UPDATE 5](#) (PDF) and your feedback to this proposal has been overwhelming. I thank members who "had their say" in such large numbers.

- 82 percent of those who gave feedback outright rejected the offer
- 14 percent rejected the offer but suggested that a higher amount with most suggesting amounts over \$50
- 2 percent suggested accept the offer
- 2 percent did not answer the issue but we appreciate the feedback given

Given the decision from the majority of members is to reject this offer, we will continue to seek a recommendation from the Commissioner, however, as stated clearly the offer mentioned above will lapse and there is a real possibility that the Commissioner may agree that no allowance is payable if the company supplies meals.

The other side of the coin is that the Commissioner may accept our view and recommend that the company pay the Barracks Allowance. Which way she will make a recommendation is anyone's guess.

**Unity is Strength**

Bruce Mackie

**Queensland State President**