



UPDATE ON COATES HIRE BARGAINING

May 4 2017

The Coates Unions sought an extension from Coates until May 4 to provide a response to the Fair Work Commission, to allow further feedback from delegates and members on the Coates latest offer.

Today, there was a national telephone conference of Coates delegates and AMWU organisers. Following report back and discussion it was agreed that the offer in its current form was not acceptable.

We have resolved that we cannot accept the offer for the following reasons:

- 1.** It undermines the principle agreed to by Coates of wage equity in the 2012 agreement at Appendix B;
- 2.** It undermines terms and conditions established over many years which is unfair and unjust; and
- 3.** It cuts worker wages in real terms. There has been no wage increase since April 2015.

The unions have written to the Fair Work Commission and Coates today advising of the rejection of the current offer. Over the coming days the union will be contacting Coates around the process to move things forward in pursuit of a fair deal.

Additionally, if Coates advises that they will be putting out the agreement for a vote, the delegates and unions have resolved that we will be running a "NO" vote campaign.

I am confident that if we continue to work and stand together, we can secure a better deal for Coates hire workers.

In solidarity,

Glenn Thompson
Assistant National Secretary