



Industrial Data Sheet

Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union - Manufacturing Membership

Our members design, innovate, manufacture, test and maintain. They also plan, manage and administer.

APS960/2489
12th May, 2015.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION IN DEFENCE

A [previous data sheet](#) advised of the outcomes of the AMWU's protected (industrial) action ballot in Defence. In short, all ten of the types of action put to ballot were endorsed.

Under the terms of the Fair Work Act, each action has to be given effect within 30 days of the formal declaration of the ballot or its availability lapses. That 30 days ends in this case on 14th May.

Implementation

With the support of its delegates, the AMWU had divided the ten types of actions into two categories.

The items in the first category were the subject of national notification to the Department on 24th April in the following terms, subject to certain provisos concerning safety:

"Indefinite bans by individual members of the AMWU on:

1. any duty or task which requires travel within Australia (but not internationally) that would take the member beyond the establishment within which that member ordinarily works;
2. travel undertaken within Australia outside the bandwidth; and
3. out of hours restrictions and emergency duty."

These bans have been applied at a number of sites around the country.

Actions in the second category are being notified by the AMWU's State Offices. It is anticipated that implementation of these actions will vary workplace to workplace, depending upon the natures of the workplaces concerned and their work.

Notices for five individual sites have been notified so far, whilst the members at a number of other sites have been consulted with notices for them to follow soon.

Members at the Proof and Experimental Establishment at Port Wakefield in South Australia systematically notified all of the seven actions not notified nationally. The notification for that site was in the following terms, subject to certain provisos concerning safety:

"Individual members of the AMWU will take the following actions:

1. Indefinite bans on:
 - the performance of SCA [supply customer account] compliance audits;

- the escorting of contractors;
 - the completion of forms electronically; and
 - the operation of marine craft, whether boats or hovercraft.
2. A ban on all overtime by employees below Executive levels.
 3. An indefinite ban on overtime beyond two hours a week by employees below Executive levels.
 4. A ban on all additional hours by Executive level employees.
 5. An indefinite ban on additional hours beyond 30 minutes a day by Executive level employees.
 6. A 30 minute stoppage of work.
 7. A 24 hour stoppage of work.

The bans at item 1 above will commence on Wednesday 6th May, 2015.

The bans at items 2 and 4 above will be taken from Wednesday 6th May to Tuesday 12th May, 2015 inclusive.

The bans at items 3 and 5 above will commence on Wednesday 13th May, 2015.

The stoppage at item 6 will be effected from noon until 12.30 pm on Thursday 7th May, 2015.

The stoppage at item 7 will be effected exclusively within the 24 hour period which comprises Friday 8th May, 2015."

Each of the notified actions has since been given effect, except for those at items 3 and 5, which will be given effect from tomorrow.

Other sites have notified actions which include, amongst other things and subject to certain provisos concerning safety, indefinite bans by individual members on:

- all commercial work/tasks;
- escorting visitors (other than union officials);
- approval and reconciliation of invoices, purchases and travel-related expenses;
- attendance at non-technical meetings or virtual meetings;
- implementation and use of the Objective Document Management System.

In addition, one site piggy-backed 30 minute and 24 hour stoppages such that individual members went home early on a Friday and did not return until the following Tuesday.

A national telephone hook-up of the delegates of the AMWU and Professionals Australia has been convened for Thursday 14th May. It will:

- review the progress made in implementing the different actions endorsed at ballot; and
- discuss any issues that have arisen.

Maintain close contact with your local AMWU delegate or Organiser.