

NO SHORTCUTS WITH SAFETY

Isolation procedures are a critical safety measure designed to protect workers from harm when working on or around equipment and plant.

There have been concerning reports from multiple sites lately that despite the known risks involved workers are still being asked to take shortcuts when it comes to isolating equipment. It seems that most of these incidents are occurring on night shifts and weekends when there is less management around on site. Given the tragic events that occurred at Paraburdoo last year it is worrying to say the least that workers are still being asked to take shortcuts when it comes to safety.

There are no shortcuts when it comes to safety, **if it's not safe don't do it!** If you are asked to undertake an unsafe task let that person know you are not comfortable doing it that way, don't put yourself or others at risk. If you have concerns about safety on your site contact a WMWA Organiser to discuss.

WMWA NATIONAL EXECUTIVE TO VISIT THE PILBARA

The National Executive of the WMWA (AWU & CFMEU) will be visiting the Pilbara to meet with members and supporters in the not too distant future. The visit will include the towns of Tom Price and Paraburdoo where members will have the opportunity to discuss the future plans of the WMWA and any other questions they may have. Correspondence outlining meeting dates and times will be sent out shortly to all members.

IMPERFECTLY IVMS

The 'In Vehicle Management System' **IVMS** that Rio Tinto use is a product provided by a mob called '**Intellifleet**'. Apparently when the system was first introduced it was said that it would be used for 'real time' management, that is if you are speeding or aren't wearing a seat belt an alarm goes off and you think about what you've done and adjust. However, an IVMS Update & Clarification document stated that along with 'real time' management, breaches of road rules will result in investigations and may lead to termination.

Alliance members have been represented in cases where they have been investigated unjustly. In short, the IVMS is imperfect. In some cases workers are being investigated for breaches but have not even been in the vehicle! It is a bit of a no brainer. It is not fair to investigate people for breaches using an imperfect system. In the current Rio working environment any investigation on record is a serious matter. One or two more investigations and you can easily be facing termination.

If it is not a 'fair go', what can we do about it?

If you or someone you know is or has been investigated for a breach of road rules due to IVMS and, it appears to be a system fault, get the worker to contact Alliance Organisers. We are building a log of these cases to push back on unfair treatment of workers.

Why join the Alliance?

In short, we are hell of a lot cheaper than industrial lawyers and have access to years of industrial experience. If you have a workplace issue and need advice, we are a call away. \$15 a week is not much, and after tax even less. Industrial Lawyers start from \$500 an hour! It pays to be in the Union!