

ACTIVE STRONG UNITED

NSW GOVERNMENT ATTACKS STATE PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS

The O'Farrell Government has introduced new laws that attack over 100 years of NSW Industrial Relations law. These laws only directly affect public sector workers in the state IR system, so RailCorp and Sydney Ferries members are not directly affected. However, we ask ALL ASU members to support your fellow members in fighting these new draconian laws.

These laws will:

- cut services to the community,
- cut the pay and conditions of public sector workers,
- undermine the ability of public sector unions to effectively represent their members, and
- end the independent role of the NSW Industrial Relations Commission

The laws introduced into parliament will give the Government a blank cheque to change wages and conditions of public sector workers at any time.

With the stroke of a pen, Barry O'Farrell can determine the wages and conditions of public sector workers.

The laws will remove the right for workers to have an independent umpire hear and resolve their disputes.

Barry O'Farrell was elected saying that he would restore trust in our system of Government.

Barry O'Farrell has betrayed the people of NSW by introducing these laws.

It's time to let our politicians know that we will stand up for our rights at work.

ASU members and officials joined the 12-000 strong rally of workers protesting against O'Farrell's anti-worker laws.

www.betterstate.org.au



SYDNEY FERRIES TO BE 'FRANCHISED' – I THINK THEY MEAN PRIVATISED!

The NSW Transport Minister has announced that Sydney Ferries will be sold off to private operators by the end of next year. The ASU is working with other Ferries unions to ensure that members jobs, pay and conditions are protected and the Ferries continues to provide the level of customer service and safety that they do now.

The O'Farrell Government has based this decision on a report that is over 5 years old and ASU members at Sydney Ferries are proud of the way they have turned the Ferries around since then with one of the lowest collision rates of any Ferry operator in the world.

SECURITY MONITORING FACILITY AT RAILCORP

Staff Representatives held a meeting with Railcorp on 17th June to discuss roster proposals for the new facility. Railcorp have stated that "To date you have been working mostly as a 1 person operation meaning operationally RailCorp required you to work through your meal break (and receive a 20 minute paid crib break). This is not an operational requirement as part of your position at the Security Monitoring Facility."

What this means is that staff would now be entitled to a 30 minute unpaid meal break. Members are understandably concerned that this issue was not brought to their attention earlier when they applied for the positions and a 8 hour shift now becomes an 8½ hour shift and subsequent travelling time problems.

The ASU shall be contacting members shortly to discuss this issue.

SYDNEY FERRIES AGREEMENT CERTIFIED

The Senior and Salaried Officers Enterprise Agreement 2011 was certified on the 3rd June by Fair Work Australia and was effective from 10th June. Staff will receive new pay rates in this week's pay run. Back pay will have been deposited last week and will show on this week's pay slips.

Special thanks go to the ASU delegates Michelle Battin, Alan Patchett, Kim Martin, Eammon Murray and Paul Simmons who were involved in the negotiations for their hard work and dedication to secure pay and conditions for members.

FINANCE RESTRUCTURE AT RAILCORP

A meeting was held between the combined rail unions and Railcorp on 17th June 2011 to discuss members concerns surrounding the finance restructure. Amongst the topics discussed were; staff not holding relevant qualifications, positions being cut out, downgrading of positions, protection of current terms of employment, acting in higher duties, Integrated Transport Authority and how that affects the unit etc.

Railcorp stated that interviews have taken place for 7 management positions and HR are validating around 30 direct appointments. Management were advised that around 40% of respondents to an ASU survey did not hold either a degree or CPA. Railcorp are planning staff briefings in early July to further update staff on the process of the restructure.



The ASU are awaiting a written response from Railcorp and a union bulletin going into more detail surrounding the issues raised will be distributed shortly.

DELEGATE TRAINING

With restructures and reorganisations taking place within various transport industries delegates become an even more vital part of the union. Delegates are the front line and are an important link between the union office and members. They provide the main communication link which allows our union to be effective. Having a representative in every workplace is essential.

The Union will shortly be conducting delegate training so if you are interested, would like more information or would like to become a point of contact for the union organiser please contact:

peterm@asu.org.au or call 9310 4000.

FORSTER/TUNCURRY GETAWAY OPEN TO ALL UNION MEMBERS

Situated near the waterfront at Tuncurry, the ASU's holiday apartments offer first class accommodation for all union members from as low as \$230 per week*. Each two-bedroom apartment is completely self-contained and includes: a large fully equipped kitchen, lock-up garage, an 'under-sail' courtyard and BBQ area and complete laundry facilities.

To book one of these immaculate apartments contact:
Forster-Tuncurry First National Real Estate, 25 Manning Street, Tuncurry
NSW 2428.
Phone: 02 6554 5011.

* WINTER RATES



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