



ARTC EA Newsletter No. 7 - 8th August, 2005

At the last EBA negotiation meeting on the 6th July 2005, the Unions informed ARTC that they believed transmission of business had occurred for ARTC employees in New South Wales and as such, for those workers, the conditions they had when employed by RIC or SRA still applied.

Therefore, at the most recent meeting on 4th August 2005, Unions again reiterated to ARTC that it was our intention to use those enterprise agreements as the basis for negotiating a new national agreement. Indeed, the draft union position which had been presented to ARTC on 12th May was just that.

ARTC management appears to have had a significant shift in their approach, coming to the table on 4th August ready to use the RIC and SRA agreements as the starting point for the negotiations. Whether an agreement resulting from these negotiations can be applied beyond NSW will have to be seen further into the negotiations.

Further, ARTC management have agreed that they will book off several delegates to represent each union during the negotiations. Unions will approach appropriate representatives soon to seek their involvement.

Subject to approval by the ARTC Board, ARTC management made some innovative offers in the negotiations including:

- Provision of unlimited sick leave.
- Provision of a 9 day fortnight for infrastructure and related workers and a 19 day month for other ARTC employees.
- Maternity leave to be available after 40 weeks of employment and nine weeks of this leave to be paid.
- 1 week paid paternity leave.
- The provision of 3 days bereavement leave compared to the current 2 provided by RIC/SRA.

There remain key issues over which the parties are apart – these include public holiday provisions, a ‘home depot’ clause, remuneration, aggregated salaries, payment of travelling time and time of in lieu for public holiday work.

The unions look forward to continuing constructive negotiations with ARTC and to the involvement of delegates.

Next meetings have been set for 15th and 16th August 2005.

If members of the joint Unions or other ARTC employees require more information about the negotiations, or would like to make a suggestion, please contact your Union Organiser:

RTBU New South Wales	Doug Klineberg	(02) 9264 2511
RTBU South Australia	Ashley Waddell	(08) 8212 1010
APESMA	Nick Davison	(02) 9263 6500
ASU New South Wales	Trevor Naylor	(02) 9310 4000
ASU South Australia	Steve Brooks	(08) 8363 1322
CEPU	Bob Carcary	(02) 9267 4844

This Newsletter circulates to all ARTC employees and RIC Secondees in NSW, South Australia and Victoria.

Produced by Combined Unions: RTBU, CEPU, ASU and APESMA.