

SAPN/Enerven EA Update 13-7-2021

We have scheduled an EA meeting with the SA Power Networks/Enerven EA Bargaining team. The meeting will happen on Tuesday the 20th of July, 9-11am.

It is clear now, from 3 failed votes, that the company need to start listening to the workers representatives at the bargaining table. From the high vote return rate, the company need to understand that the workers are engaged and are not impressed with the situation.

We will be going into this meeting to bargain our revised Log of Claims (which we provided to SAPN/Enerven 2 EA meetings ago) which seek a reasonable pay rise and strengthening of our working conditions. The key areas we will be targeting are:

- Reasonable Payrise, currently set at 4% but is negotiable in relation to rest of the package
- No loss of conditions
- Reduction in precarious work arrangements (secondments/supp labour) in SAPN/Enerven
- Limiting the use of Defined Term Contracts (some of which are currently as short as 3 months)
- Strengthening of the Contractor Parity Arrangements

These are all reasonable claims that are currently enjoyed elsewhere in the country in our industry. SAPN/Enerven are in a very strong financial position because of the work the employees put in every day.

Overtime Bans are Biting SAPN/Enerven Hard

With another huge win just behind us, we have been asked by our members what our plans are with Protected Action. We know that the overtime bans are biting the company hard, now is not the time to relieve the pressure. When we start to see movement in the direction we want, we may then re-assess the actions that are in place. Until then we need every member to refuse every bit of work outside ordinary hours (except in emergency situations). Every worker needs to say no for this to work, no matter what department or area you work in. Every no is important. This action highlights just how much extra we have done in the past. Work to Rule is still in place and needs to be adhered to, just do your job, nothing more, its obvious that SAPN/Enerven do not value any extra effort put in by the workforce, or we would not have had such poor conduct from the business during negotiations. Just do your job, nothing more.

The SBU have Contacted the SA Power Networks Board

This EA has been the worst EA negotiation the Union Officials have been involved in, the strategy that has been trotted out by the anti-worker employer Bargaining Team has done nothing for the workers confidence in their employer. In light of this we have written to the Chairman of the Board of SA Power Networks and expressed our disappointment at how these negotiations have been handled. This is an important move because many of the Members of the SA Power Networks Board are also members of Boards for other companies in the CKI business family, namely Victoria Power Networks, CitiPower and Powercor. These Board Members will easily notice a stark difference in the way the EA Negotiations have transpired in these different businesses, as these EA's are all being negotiated simultaneously. For example, the Victorian Distributors have arrived at an offer of 1.75% every 6 months without the workers feeling the need to lodge an application for Protected Industrial Action. This difference is remarkable, especially because these businesses are in the same industry, owned by the same company, the workers do the same work, the businesses are regulated by the same regulator, but the SA Power Networks/Enerven are getting a much rougher deal than the Victorian counter parts. The Board Members should be asking why?

SAME WORK, LESS PAY, WE SAY, NO WAY!

For more information regarding the SAPN/Enerven enterprise agreement negotiations, contact your relevant union workplace delegate or your Union Organiser:

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PLEASE SHARE THIS UPDATE WITH YOUR WORKMATES