



your united team of collective strength



Utilities Management EA Update 10/12/2021

SBU Makes Hard Offer to UMPL

On Thursday the 9th of November 2021, the SBU attended an EA meeting with UMPL via Teams.

In this meeting, UMPL had no change in position whatsoever to communicate to the SBU. In our view, they are putting no effort into negotiating, showing very little respect to the workers of UMPL – who are the most productive Distribution workers in the country, according to the AER.

Once again, it was up to the workers to get negotiations going. The SBU had been deliberating over our position since the last EA meeting. UMPL have always held our 4% wage claim out as unreasonable and in negotiations UMPL had feigned that they couldn't negotiate unless that number was fixed. Our concept of "this will be negotiated as a package" was beyond them, so we decided to harden our offer, in an attempt to help them understand our Member's position.

In an attempt to get UMPL to negotiate, the new counter proposal is now a hard-set offer that we can be confident that our Member's will accept at a vote.

This offer is made for a single Enterprise Agreement, and copies of this offer are available through [this link](#) on the SA Power Workers website.

Our offer is reasonable on the grounds that it is in line with other pay increases achieved in our Industry across Australia. CitiPower/Powercor got 3.5% per year, with a host of other condition increases. This included a 0.25% increase for their hard work through Covid-19. This, combined with the AER having deemed SA Power Networks as the most efficient Distribution provider (with a productivity increase of 6.1% for this year which is the 15th year in a row).

Failing to achieve 3.5% will see us fall down the scale in the country wide industry wage comparison.

We advised UMPL that, as endorsed by the Members of the SBU, current Industrial Action will continue until an Agreement is reached. We will be continuing to submit Industrial Action Notices to UMPL throughout the festive season, meaning if workers had trouble getting leave through this period, they may take Action on as many days as they wish through the festive season.

AER Finds SAPN Most Efficient for 15 Years Running

The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) Benchmarking Report for 2021 (comparing performance across the 13 electricity distribution businesses in the National Electricity Market in 2020), shows SA Power Networks continues to provide South Australians with the most efficient electricity distribution services in Australia. SAPN has held the top position in these ratings for 15 years, since 2006.

In the report, the AER says that SA Power Networks had a productivity increase of 6.1% in 2020. This is a huge achievement of every single worker within SA Power Networks and Enerven. Their dedication and performance is unmatched across Australia and this effort deserves to be applauded by the business. UMPL should be rewarding the workers for their efforts in all areas that bring about these productivity increases.

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