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CEPU SA, ASU SA & NT, Professionals Australia - Press Release 31 January 2022

SA Power Workers to strike Tuesday 1 February 2022

SA Power Workers employed by Utilities Management Pty Ltd (SA Power Networks and Enerven) will stop work across South Australia to take strike action tomorrow morning. A rally will be held outside SA Power Networks/Enerven headquarters at [Station Place Hindmarsh](#) from 8:30 am.

UMPL is the majority foreign owned company that operates the monopoly market of providing the essential service of electricity to South Australian homes and businesses.

SA Power Networks, a company incorporated in the Bahamas, [reported](#) a revenue result for 2020 of \$668 Million (EBITDA).

SA Power Networks was ranked the nation's most efficient regulated distribution network operator in 2020 (again).

Despite the company's workforce continuing to deliver financial and service performance success for the company in the face of the covid pandemic, the workers cannot get a fair and reasonable workplace deal.

Workers have been striving to reach for a fair and reasonable outcome with UMPL for nearly 2 years, since June 2020.

The whole time UMPL have been seeking to reduce wages and terms and conditions of employment.

The workers have had enough. Whilst they are committed to their community and have a desire not to interrupt power supply or inconvenience fellow SA electricity customers, workers have few options but to take strike action to try and get a fair deal.

Quotes Attributable to Sarah Andrews, Director Professionals Australia - 0411 124 351:

"Engineers and Project Managers are critical to the delivery of essential services in South Australia and are fundamental to supporting the economic growth of our state. "

Quotes attributable to Jess Rogers, CEPU SA Assistant Secretary - 0408 647 034:

"As a foreign owned company sending profits offshore, UMPL owes South Australians job security and a fair share of the profits. Workers have come together across the state and have been fighting a David and Goliath battle for a fair deal for almost 2 years"

“SA Power Workers got South Australia through 2020 and 2021 delivering their employer healthy profits throughout the COVID pandemic. These essential workers deserve a fair deal that protects their wages, conditions and job security”.

Quote attributable to Abbie Spencer, Secretary ASU SA & NT

“Not only are SA Power Networks and Enerven denying essential power workers a fair pay rise while they make record profits, they’re not even willing to consider our members claims that would not cost money to implement but make their workplaces fairer.”

“Energy is a male dominated industry and one of our claims for ASU members was to seek to promote employment opportunities for women, but so far the company has refused”.

“SA Power Networks is willing to spend money sponsoring programs to promote itself as a good corporate citizen all while doing the opposite for their employees”.

ASU SA NT Media Enquiries Dan Spencer – 0447 147 524

Quotes attributable to Ben Jewell, CEPU SA Power Industry Organiser - 0422 339 699:

“The message from our members is very simple. Same Job, Less Pay – No Way”.

“It’s time for SA Power Networks and Enerven to start respecting their essential workers and provide them with fair wages and secure employment. The current offer of a reduction in conditions and a wage offer well below CPI is not an acceptable response to the workers nation leading efforts and performance”.

Further information available at: www.sapowerworkers.com.au