



your united team of collective strength



Utilities Management Pty Ltd EA Update 8/11/2022

UMPL EA finally approved by the FWC

The UMPL Enterprise Agreement was approved by the Fair Work Commission (FWC) yesterday. You can read the [DECISION](#) approving your agreement which will come into operation, and be legally enforceable from the 14th of November.

UMPL sought, by way of correspondence to the FWC on 4 October, to delay the approval of the agreement until after the 14th of December. They said this was to enable time for the company to *manage difficulties associated with reconfiguration of its payroll system*. The company expressed concern *that if approval of the Agreement was not delayed as sought, it may impact its ability to meet its back pay obligations*.

The CEPU opposed UMPL's application to delay the approval of the agreement and cited the detrimental financial impacts our members would incur if UMPL was successful in their unprecedented request to delay the agreement that they themselves requested the FWC to approve.

The FWC considered submissions made by UMPL's legal representatives and concluded that given *the parties commenced bargaining for the Agreement over 2 years ago. In these circumstances it is difficult to comprehend how the employer now finds itself in a position where it is unable to implement in a timely manner the outcome of bargaining*.

This is just the latest of many wins in the FWC by the workers against UMPL in the protracted enterprise agreement negotiation process, we hope it is the last of this campaign. We hope that UMPL are tired of losing and decide next time to prioritise genuine good faith bargaining and agreement making over convoluted testing of legal principals in the Fair Work commission - We will find out in about 12 months time.

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:

Ben Jewell CEPU 0422 339 699

BenjaminJ@cepusa.com.au

Daniel Spencer ASU 0447 147 524

dspencer@asu-sant.asn.au

Dominic Mugavin PA 0424 793 400

DMugavin@professionalsaustralia.org.au

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