



POWER WORKERS

South Australia

The Official Email Newsletter of the [old ETSA] Power Industry Sub Committee [PISC].
Work and Welfare Related Issues for all Power Workers in South Australia

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SPECIAL NETWORK OPERATIONS CENTRE ISSUE



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NAC Workplace changes

A draft document has been developed by the NAC Members to enhance their working conditions. My understanding is that this draft proposal has the support of the NOC Management and is at present awaiting final approval from ETSA Utilities IR group. The proposal has the support of the CEPU and is a very welcome change to past negotiations with the NOC Management. **The CEPU welcomes this change of negotiation style.** This has meant that CEPU Members conditions are improved with full support of the local management. Once the document has had final approval I will list the agreed changes that have enhanced the NAC Members conditions of employment.

Changes to the way of working shifts.

The CEPU has corresponded to ETSA Utilities stating the following: *The CEPU has been informed that ETSA Utilities may be planning to change the shift arrangements for the Network Operations Centre (NOC) The CEPU position is very clear and that is if ETSA Utilities requires to change the shift arrangements in the Network Operations Centre then that can only be done **by agreement** of the DNC Level 2 Operators. This CEPU position is for any shift changes for any group and I refer you to clause 9.7.2.1 of the Utilities Management Pty Ltd Workplace Agreement Terms and Conditions Agreement 2008*

Distribution Network Operations Officers Heat Wave Payments.

The CEPU Has corresponded to the NOC Management on this issue several times. This issue arose during the Heat Wave conditions in late January and early February. NOC Management informed the Distribution Network Operators that they would be paid 2x penalty rates for all work performed. After the work had been completed NOC Management informed these employees that sorry we got it wrong we will only pay 2 x penalties when the Workplace Agreement compels us to do so. After numerous requests through telephone conversations and letters a meeting was held on the 8th of April with John Fleetwood, Gary Hoare, Matt Blowes and I. All through these negotiations the ETSA Utilities position would not change. The ETSA Utilities official position is that *"ETSA Utilities remain of the view that any misinterpretation regarding heatwave payment arrangements was unintended and subsequently appropriately clarified.*

Officers that received 2x payments were as per the Workplace Agreement this was the Officers who changed shifts at short notice. Comments by ETSA Utilities for Operators who started at Depots instead of Keswick was that it was closer to their home so they benefited and no 2x payment will apply. **Next time a Manager from the NOC informs you that extra payments will apply get it confirmed that it is correct by contacting the CEPU.**

36 hour week

The CEPU will be conducting a survey of CEPU Salaried Members to ascertain if they want the 36 hour week as part of their working conditions in the 2011 Workplace Agreement. (Ask a Wages employee what they think of the 36 hour week)

As you may be aware only the CEPU took up the fight for the 36 hour week. ETSA Utilities reluctantly agreed if all Unions supported this claim and it would result in a reduction in the wages increase over the life of the agreement of 1.1%. But only the CEPU took up the fight to attempt to gain this condition so the 36 hour week was lost... In 2011 if CEPU Members want the 36 hour week we will deliver regardless of the other "Unions" positions.

Remember with the 36 hour week your weekly wage rate stays the same which means your hourly rate increases which means the overtime hourly rate increases. This = extra O/T \$