



Offshore Update – 10th July 2020

Members

This update comes as Australia faces further lockdowns and some significant changes to border restrictions. In addition, we cover off on today's Offshore Commission. Please share this email with all your contacts.

Boarder Closure Update

Western Australia

Yesterday afternoon, the WA Government announced that they will be stopping all people (including some workers) from Victoria entering WA. This will have a significant effect on many people including our members.

<https://www.watoday.com.au/national/western-australia/victorian-fifo-workers-barred-as-wa-border-closure-locked-down-further-20200709-p55amj.html>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-07-09/mandatory-covid-testing-for-vic-arrivals-into-wa-amid-outbreak/12438012>

As of 12.01am today, these new Victorian restrictions have come into place.

No one will be allowed into Western Australia if they have been in Victoria in the previous 14 days, unless they meet the new exemption list or would normally reside in Western Australia.

The following exemptions will be permitted to enter WA:

- specific essential workers
- transport and freight workers
- those approved to enter by the State Emergency Coordinator on the advice of the Chief Health Officer.

Anyone that does come into WA from Victoria will be required to take a COVID-19 test on day 11 of their time in in WA or at any point should the develop symptoms.

Current WA restrictions can be found [here](#)

Queensland

The previous exemption criteria has been enhanced by the QLD government and workers needing to enter from Victoria will now be assessed on a case by case basis for granting exemptions. Since this has been implemented, we have seen our members that have travelled from Victoria to QLD made exempt from forced isolation.

This decision and recent change by the QLD government may have a significant impact on our members travelling back to QLD from Victoria. We have seen some employers put it on our members to pick up the

costs for this hotel accommodation (approx. \$2,300) but have been successful in pushing it back on them. We will continue to do our best to have employers pick up this cost should we need to.

Offshore Commission Update

We can report that the first offshore commission held today was a success. The video conferencing call (via zoom) worked well and everyone had their opportunity to have their say and many did.

We had approximately 40 members participate in the hook-up from around the country. If members missed out on today, don't worry, as we have another meeting scheduled for the 14th August – so get in touch with your branch to participate.

“Members involved in the 10 July 2020 Offshore Commission moved that the Union seek to align the manning agreements expiring this year with the vessel operators expiring in 2022. The new agreements would also see some non-cost claims addressed, minimal cost items, small movement in wages, Manning levels addressed and seek to fix up some of the issues with the current agreements. Should the first employers not agree to our proposal, then we will seek to place a full log of claims upon them and campaign in the normal manner.”

As reported earlier, the next Commission will be on at 9am (WST) (11am EST), August 14 2020. ALL members are encouraged to get involved. If vessels wish to participate, they can also come in via Zoom as well.

In Unity

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“Australian Democracy was built on Civil Disobedience”

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