



Offshore Update – 14th & 15th September 2020

Members

This email update is the same as the ones that were sent out earlier this week (only I have combined the 2 emails into this one report). The MUA servers have been down, so apologies to those receiving this twice.

Please ensure that this email is read out on board your vessels, **its most important to read this if you're working with AOS or OSM.**

Offshore EBA Campaign

As recently reported, we have written to each of the Employers which have their agreements expiring at the end of October. We have requested that they come back to us with meeting dates so that we can bargain with each of them individually. In our email to the Employers we also requested that they send out the notice of representational rights document (NERR).

The NERR must be sent out to all employees (Casual and Permanent) that are engaged at the time with that employer. The purpose of the NERR is to elect your bargaining representative. Given that we are the Union with constitutional coverage we automatically become your bargaining representative. So, our advice to all members is to do nothing so that the MUA automatically becomes your default bargaining representative - as we have done for all the Offshore agreements up until this point in time.

If the delegates could please forward me a copy of the NERR as soon as they receive it.

We suspect that the key manning agents AOS and OSM are being led by AMMA and we believe that they are on a stalling campaign. Obviously, we won't be allowing this to occur, so we want to get on the front foot. Earlier this week Atlas released their NERR to their employees.

Majority Support Decision

Given that the Employers are refusing to bargain, we intend to obtain what's known as a majority support decision (MSD) through the FWC. This will force the Employers to commence the bargaining process.

For us to be able to achieve this we require ALL Current Members engaged with AOS or OSM and ALL Members that have worked with AOS or OSM in the previous 3 months to complete the attached form ASAP. Any member that has been told that they will be working with these companies in the coming months, should also complete the attached forms as well.

All forms must be returned to me no later than **Monday 28 September.**

Next Offshore EBA ZOOM Hook-Up

We are locking in our next Offshore EBA members meeting on **Friday 2 October at 9am WA Time (11am EST).**

At this meeting, we intend to provide the membership with a detailed report back on any progress made with YOUR EBA campaign.

Upcoming Work for our Industry

1. Later this year, AOS have confirmed 3 vessels are heading back into Australia. Obviously, their permanents will be prioritised to these vessels, but there will be certainly be a number of casual spots open up.
2. It is rumoured that OSM have a couple of PSV's set to enter the Australian market later this year. This hasn't yet been confirmed but has come from a good source.
3. There will be Pipe layers engaged by All Seas in the new year which will likely be crewed by either ATLAS, OSM or AOS.
4. The return of the Flotel is also being talked about in the industry with a plan to go from location, to location. More to come on this one!
5. The Beach Energy job in Victoria, is also set to fire back up again in the coming months.
6. In regard to major Oil and Gas Projects, Scarborough, Pluto, Barossa & Browse will begin firing up somewhere between late 2021 (Nov, Dec) and 2023.

Whilst some of the above is not yet confirmed, it's positive to even hear of vessels entering the country.

Offshore Wind – building momentum

The Star of the South project in Victoria is beginning to get some further traction and company projections now have the construction phase kicking off in January 2023. The project was granted the first stage application to measure and map the resource and is now moving through to the second stage construction approval process.

There are also discussions being had around another major Offshore Wind Farm being built in Newcastle. Proponents of this massive project have provided presentations for 10 000 Mw offshore wind farm that will be based on technology around floating turbines. This is a project that is five times the size of Star of the South and is at a scale that will see it create its own local renewable manufacturing base. This is where would see what a real life "just transition" really looks like with long term new sustainable jobs in the wind industry.

Pilot Energy have also suggested that they will be looking into a feasibility study into a massive 1,100MW offshore wind project, to be located on the Western Australian coast.

Offshore Wind technology is decades old globally and we are now starting to see some of the globes biggest proponents of these projects start to promote and build some momentum in Australia for the technology.

AMSA Extensions

The Union is continuing to lobby AMSA on extending the October Amnesty. We are aware that some members have had their extensions knocked back by them and we are doing whatever we can (along with other industry bodies) to have AMSA change their position and extend the revalidations along with other qualifications.

Given that Victoria is unable to access training, along with restrictions on face to face and group interactions, we believe that the extension will be granted.

We hope to be able to report back with some positive news on this subject by the end of the week.

Underpayment Claims

Thanks to these members that returned their Authority to Act forms. We have been through them all and will be writing to each of the Employers in the coming weeks seeking that they release your information to us. We are confident that we have some good claims to make but bear with us as we have received a significant amount of forms back from the membership. It will take some time to write to the employers and time to work through each member details given this needs to be dealt with on an individual basis.

We also believe that Atlas may also have made a series of underpayments for some of their Employees. We are currently investigating this matter further and if there is any truth, we will seek to pursue any missed payments for those affected members.

In Unity

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