



15 DECEMBER 2021

# OFFSHORE UPDATE

M U A W A B R A N C H

Comrades

Thanks to those that participated in last Friday's Offshore members hookup. The report was well received by the membership, given the feedback that's come through since.

This report will cover off on some of that meeting and other matters affecting our industry.

## OFFSHORE EBA CAMPAIGN

As endorsed by the members at last Friday's meeting, the Branch is calling for the MUA delegates from each employer to formulate a log of claims committee. This meeting will be held at the WA Branch on February 10th, 2022 and is intended to be face to face.

Delegates at each of those companies will be contacted in the coming days regarding this meeting.

The aim of this meeting will be to work through the 120+ claims and identify which of the claims the membership will be seeking to pursue as key claims in this next round of bargaining. All industry matters will need to be considered, including the GO Offshore EBA, where the DOF negotiations are at, where we landed with the manning agents and the broader state of the Oil and Gas industry.

The broader membership is encouraged to speak with their delegates so that any specific claims members are seeking are discussed and debated at this meeting.

## UPDATE ON AGREEMENTS

To date, we have reached agreement with AOS, OSM, Entier, Focus, OSM and are finalising an agreement with ESS and continuing to meet with Rigforce. All which expire in 2022.

MMA and DOF are currently the only 2 agreements that are out of date. Solstad, Swire and Maersk all expire between March and May next year.

## DOF PROTECTED ACTION

The DOF members have been engaged in a series of protected action in support of a new EBA. So far, these members have taken up the fight to this company on 3 separate occasions with a significant amount of action planned in the coming days.

These members are not only fighting for their rights, but they are also fighting for all future DOF employees and the broader seafaring membership.

It appears that DOF management may be seeking to take us on a legal route, as they have indicated that we are not bargaining in good faith. We disagree with that as we have genuinely been trying to land a deal with them.

The MUA will continue to bargain with DOF with a view of reaching an agreement.



## LABOUR SHORTAGE

There is a significant shortage of workers nationally and internationally in all fields of work, but specifically we are seeing a shortage of Australian seafarers nationally. Not only are we short of seafarers in the oil and gas sector, we are also short in other maritime sectors such as TT line that are in need of over 20 IRs throughout the Christmas period.

At last weeks meeting, members endorsed that no member should return or remain on board a vessel without running it past the appropriate official in the first instance. All instances need to be considered on a case by case basis.

While there is a shortage nationally, some employers have been lying to our members saying that that there isn't anyone available - so that they can remain on board and work over-cycle or are asking our members to return early. There may be some members in various states across the country that are able to go to work and they should be exhausted in the first instance.

There is a significant amount of work coming up across the next few years. Too much for the current seagoing membership. Hence, we need to deal with this issue now.

Again, at Friday's meeting, the members moved that the Union begins gathering information on seafarers that are either retired and are prepared to return to the industry to assist with the shortage or members that have left the industry because of the downturn we recently faced. Those members would need to revalidate and get a valid AMSA medical.

Jack McCabe will be collating a list of retired seafarer's or seafarers who left the industry but wish to return. If anyone knows a seafarer wishing to get back in the industry, get them in touch with Jack as soon as possible via email [jack.mccabe@mua.org.au](mailto:jack.mccabe@mua.org.au).

I would also like to commend the rank and file for their diligence in sending through the crew lists. Please keep them coming!





## WA'S HARD BORDER COMES DOWN

At long last, the WA Premier has announced that hard borders will come down on February 5th, 2022. Of course, there are strings attached...

1. Anyone entering from the East must be double vaccinated
2. Anyone entering must return a negative PCR test within 72 hours of joining. Given that most states are open for business, suspect that this may be difficult.
3. They must also complete a PCR test within 48 hours of arriving into the state.



FEBRUARY  
**5**  
WA's safe  
transition date

### Travel requirements at transition

As part of WA's safe transition, our hard border controls will be replaced with vaccination and testing requirements for domestic and international arrivals.



Adhere to check in  
& proof of vaccination  
requirements



All required PCR  
tests undertaken  
in WA are free

#### Domestic arrivals

##### Testing requirements

###### Travel to WA for:

###### 5 days or less

Negative PCR test  
within 72 hours of  
departure

No arrival  
test required

###### 6 days or more

Negative PCR test  
within 72 hours of  
departure

PCR test within  
48 hours of arrival

**WA travellers  
returning  
within 5 days of  
leaving WA:**  
No pre-departure  
test requirements  
PCR test within  
48 hours of arrival



##### Vaccination requirement for those aged 12 years and older

All domestic travellers to Western Australia must be double dose vaccinated or ineligible for the vaccine at the time of travel



Complete a G2G pass

#### International arrivals

Subject to the Commonwealth Government's  
biosecurity and border requirements.

##### Testing requirements

Proof of a negative PCR test within 72 hours of  
departure to Western Australia

PCR test within 48 hours of arrival to Western  
Australia and on day six



##### Vaccination requirement for those aged 12 years and older

No quarantine requirement for double dose  
vaccinated and those ineligible for the vaccine.

14 days quarantine at an approved facility is  
required for everyone who does not meet one of  
these criteria

Public health and safety measures may be stepped up based on ongoing health advice and hospitalisations.  
When traveling inform yourself about testing, vaccination and quarantine requirements in other jurisdictions as these may be different.

More information can be found at [www.wa.gov.au](http://www.wa.gov.au)

## FESTIVE SEASON

**On behalf of the WA Branch Officials, Organisers and staff, we wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas over the festive season and into 2022.**



In Unity  
**George Gakis**  
Assistant Secretary  
M: 0412 310 686 | P: 08 9335 0500  
E: [george.gakis@mua.org.au](mailto:george.gakis@mua.org.au)  
Maritime Union of Australia | WA BRANCH

