



Offshore Update – 1st February 2021

Members

This update covers off on the WA Lockdown, General Offshore EBA Update and Solstad seeking to undermine casuals in the Industry. Please ensure that this is read out at your onboard meetings.

WA Locked Down

Late Saturday evening, a hotel quarantine security guard tested positive for COVID-19.

As a result, yesterday afternoon the WA Premier announced that WA would enter lockdown from 6pm last night for the next 5 days.

Seafarers appear to be allowed to enter the state and travel internally. We have not yet had any reports suggesting otherwise.

The security guards' immediate household contacts have been contacted, tested, and placed into isolation for 14 days. All three housemates have tested negative but are expected to return positive tests in the coming days. Government Authorities believe that this strain of the virus is from the UK. This particular strain is highly contagious, which means that the lockdown could be further extended.

Other states have begun closing their borders to WA. Queensland, the NT, Victoria and the ACT have all declared Perth, Peel and South-West WA as a hotspot blocking most from entering their states and territories. Some essential workers are allowed to travel still.

Offshore EBA Update

Go Offshore

Last week, we met with GO Offshore Management to continue working through our claims to reach an Agreement. At that meeting, they also issued us with their log of claims. These claims have been attached to this email for you all to read through.

As you can see, the company are seeking to reduce your pay, entitlements, bring in redundancy provisions to allow for head picking and the list goes on. Karen Clark suggests that we would soon see that other Employers' claims to be far worse than those from GO Offshore.

It's our position that we won't be taking a backward step through any of these negotiations.

Dirty Dof

This brings us to Dirty Dof. The company that sought to reduce our members' pay and conditions in the 2017 EBA. Through the last negotiations, AMMA was engaged to drive a split through the industry to force a race to the bottom – cutting and slashing your entitlements.

Dirty Dof was AMMA's flag bearer seeking to rip apart our long-standing EBAs. We were fortunate to be able to stop the drop and maintain the pay and conditions that our members are currently enjoying today.

Through these negotiations, we intend to secure good wage increases and better conditions. We will be holding another Dof members hook up this coming Wednesday morning to discuss our claims and strategy in dealing with this shifty company. If any Dof member has not yet received the details to participate, please get in touch with me.

We will be meeting with Dof Management for the first time this coming Friday.

AOS EBA Negotiations on Course

The AOS EBA negotiations are on course as a result of the 92% Yes vote to taking strike action. The ballot has forced AOS to start thinking sensibly.

We met again with AOS Management last week and their position in regards to our scope wording has moved significantly. To the point that we are very close to reaching an agreement with them.

We understand that some of the AOS membership still require further explanation on some of the particulars, so next Wednesday afternoon we are holding a AOS member video hook up to work through these matters.

We are working on providing the membership with further details on Protect and hope to have this finalised asap. In any event, this will be provided to the membership before the vote takes place.

If any AOS member has not yet received the details to participate in the member's video hook up, please get in touch with me.

Solstad Management Seek to Rort Permanents to Benefit themselves

Last week Solstad management asked their Victorian permanents to consider taking leave without pay to go and work for another Employer in Victoria. Whilst MMA, Tek-Ocean, and Dof do have vessels in the Bass Strait, we believe they were lining up their crew to work for OSM on the Siem vessels.

To date, NO Solstad member has opted to sell out casual members. That's a credit to the Solstad membership.

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