



Offshore Update – 9th November 2020

Members

This update reports on the Offshore EBA Zoom Update that took place last Friday 6th November, the tragic loss of Jim and Sabine Mather and the EBA negotiations.

Offshore EBA Zoom Update

Last Friday, we had our Offshore EBA Update via Zoom. The turn-out was by far the best we have had to date, and I seek to ensure that we continue to build on this each time. We had approximately 94 members online from across the country and onboard various vessels.

To put it in comparison, this time we had 3/4 screens full of member faces, whereas last time we didn't have enough participants to fill even one screen.

Great job to all members that were able to participate – it's through these forums that you will get the full picture of our Offshore EBA campaign.

The next Offshore EBA Zoom Update will take place mid to late December. There will be further details sent out to the membership in the next Offshore Update.

Offshore EBA Progress

Atlas, AOS and OSM

Tomorrow, we are once again meeting with OSM. Given the discussions that have been taking place recently, we are not expecting to make any significant progress with the company. We are remaining positive that OSM will attend the meeting with some new vocabulary that does not include the word NO. It could be the case that Atlas kicked them out of the joint bargaining meetings as they were screaming NO, NO, NO whilst trying not to become the industry example.

Next Monday, we will meet with Atlas and AOS again. These operators are being creative in how they reject our claims. Somehow, they think by stating things as “subject to client approval” or “we can agree to the claim so long as we word it our way” they are going to convince us that they are in this for your best interests. Clearly, we have called bullshit at each creative NO they have thrown our way. Having said that, we have made more progress with them, than with OSM.

Dof

Dof have cancelled their first EA Meeting with us. They claimed that we did not revert confirming meeting time and dates (even though I immediately sent them a calendar invite). In any case, we are now seeking to reschedule a bargaining meeting.

GO Offshore

Last week we met with GO Offshore who have sought to threaten the Union and the broader MUA membership. They have given us a deadline of being able to reach an agreement within 4 months. The agreement for GO Offshore must include the Officers and Engineers.

Should we not reach an agreement that includes the Officers and Engineers, GO Offshore wish to be the first operator to turn their vessel into partnerships. Luckily for us, it's not that simple. In any case, our members at GO Offshore are smart enough not to buy into the GO Offshore spin, so long as they don't agree to sign up to a partnership, then there will be no partnership.

If that fails, they are claiming they will move to a manning agent. That's right a manning agent is going to outsource their work to another manning agent. It's no wonder GO Offshore has ended up in the sad financial position that they have been through. It's decisions such as this that lead GO into the financial black hole they were in, that resulted in an administrator having to come in to assist them in ripping off workers, other companies, and the Australian Taxation Office.

Jim and Sabine Mather

Many of you would have seen on the news the Capel double tragedy which occurred on Sunday 1st November 2020. Jim and Sabine Mather were on a weekend away celebrating their anniversary, when they faced a head-on collision resulting in both of their lives being taken far too early. This young family has left behind 4 young children, hence the special mention.

Jim was a member of the MUA and a well-respected seafarer. The amount of calls, emails and Facebook posts over the past 9 days has displayed the respect that our members have for this man.

If members wish to make a donation for Jim's young family, please head to the Go Fund Me page link below:

https://www.gofundme.com/f/jim-and-sabine-mather-funeral-and-children039s-fund?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=sms&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet

May Jim and Sabine rest in peace.

General

Offshore Updates - Please share this email with your email contacts. If people want to receive this directly from me, please ask them to email me to be placed on the mailing list with their employer details.

Mental Health - If anyone is doing it tough, please don't wait, get in touch with Hunterlink. They can be contacted by phone on either of these numbers 24/7:



In Unity

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"Australian Democracy was built on Civil Disobedience"

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