



25 MAY 2021

OFFSHORE UPDATE

M U A W A B R A N C H

Comrades,

This Offshore Update covers off: Offshore EBA Update, Social Media, North West AGMs, Seafarers Vaccinations and more.

Offshore EBA Update

OSM EBA

The OSM EBA has been voted up successfully and has been lodged with the Fair Work Commission. We suspect in the next couple of weeks this EBA should become a registered document with the commission.

Our Permanent and Casual members at OSM have voted for Protect to be their Income Protection and Severance provider.

Atlas EBA

The Atlas Membership have recently received a copy of their EBA as well. Voting opens at 6:00am (AWST) this Thursday, 27 May 2021 and closes at 18:00pm (AWST) on Friday, 28 May 2021. The MUA is endorsing this agreement and support a successful "YES Vote".

Jack McCabe will be speaking directly with the Atlas membership to cover off on any queries that arise.

Dof EBA

Over the past few weeks, the Dof Delegates and the Union have met with Dof Management to continue the negotiations progressively. The last 2 meetings have surprisingly been somewhat positive, however, some of the key issues are yet to reach resolution.

Two of the key claims include pay increases - Dof have offered CPI across a term of 4 years and we are still apart on the Scope issue, but we are hopeful that we can find some common ground. We are still a while away from locking in an agreement with Dof that we are happy with, however, we are making some headway compared to other operators.

Go Offshore EBA

The Go Offshore negotiations commenced with a rush to get the agreement done and dusted in the first few weeks of 2021. If you recall, the company initially sought to threaten the use of partnerships in the Offshore sector, to which they backed away from through the EDSPDPA process.

Since then, the bargaining hasn't had that sudden rush. As a matter of fact, the negotiations have been dragging on to the point where the company have only agreed to one claim, being the Domestic Violence NES provisions, which is a must have anyway. All other matters have either been rejected by Go Offshore or they have been picked apart by management so that the claims hold no value.

We have advised Go Offshore that we will be pursuing a protected action ballot against them, so they can stop pissing around and start agreeing to some of our claims.

In any event, we intend to continue bargaining in good faith to reach an agreement with this company, that locks in duty days (amongst other claims) whilst working on board an Oil and Gas vessel.

Social Media

Many of our members are already on the WA Branch Facebook Page - If you are not, jump on and give the page a like <https://www.facebook.com/muawabranch>.

A few pointer's though, if there is a post that goes up and you work for that company – DO NOT LIKE or COMMENT or SHARE it as this could see you in breach of the company's social media policy. Having said this, if you're not working for that Employer, then please do all of the above!

Gangway Hopping Facebook Post

A more recent post we had on Facebook reached thousands of people. The post was about Gangway Hopping. The picture below was posted with other content.

We all know the Union's position of members going up and down gangways - It's simply frowned upon in our industry. That's because workers that decide to go up and down gangways without taking their leave are taking food off the table from other members in the industry.

We deal with Gangway Hopping in the branch far too regularly than we want to. The equal time roster has been fought for and maintained over the years. Don't give the bosses an argument for us to lose them. Equal time is not about whether you have been able to reach 182 days across a 12-month period. If we had that mentality, then it would be okay to work a 6-month straight roster.

"So once again, next time the boss asks you to return to work without taking your leave, tell that boss that you're not prepared to sell out the broader industry and your fellow shipmates."



North West AGMs

If there are any Seafarers in Dampier Port on Wednesday, the 2nd of June at 2pm – head to the Mermaid Hotel for the North West AGM. Local members and Branch Officials will be in attendance.

Likewise, on the 3rd of June in Port Hedland - head to the Hedland Hotel for 2pm.



Seafarers Vaccinations

All maritime workers (which includes the seagoing membership) are considered border workers for the purpose of COVID19 voluntary Pfizer vaccines.

All members, regardless of employment status, that wish to get the vaccine should go to their state health website and register under 1A Border/Port workers to take advantage of this negotiated outcome by your union with the Maritime Taskforce of government agencies.

Link to info is on the MUA website <https://www.mua.org.au/news/covid-vaccination-maritime-workers> otherwise WA members can contact Jack McCabe.

We believe that at some stage, mandatory injections for all workers across various industries will be imposed. The ACTU are looking into what legal options there are (if any).

Crew Lists

Well done to the membership for regularly sending through the crew lists. It's really been excellent over the past few months. The importance of sending in these membership checks is to ensure that we have 100% Union density on board our vessels and, when we do apply for protected action, we have an accurate account of who is working with what company. Keep up the good work!

Members should continue to let the WA Branch know when a crew joins a new vessel.

Appraisals

Members are reminded of the unions position regarding workplace appraisals. Whilst most employers state that they require you to go through an appraisal process, the union opposes them on the basis of prejudice.

Over the years, we have seen many of our members disciplined or had their employment terminated where the appraisal process came into play. Even after years of positive employer feedback, some members received one bad review that resulted in the member being terminated.

All members are reminded NOT to sign off on an appraisal, regardless of what it says.

In Unity

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“Australian Democracy was built on Civil Disobedience”

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