



ARTC EA Newsletter No. 6

July 7, 2005

ARTC Delays Negotiations...Again!

Newsletter 5 detailed that at the last meeting on 27th May 2005, ARTC presented its position to the Unions. The ARTC position was effectively a copy of the South Australian Enterprise Agreement. This was, and remains, unacceptable.

Newsletter 5 also outlined the dates of meetings which were to occur to in June. However ARTC cancelled the meetings planned for the 16th and 21st June. Consequently approximately four weeks have passed since the parties last met.

During that period the Unions took the opportunity to review the progress of the negotiations to date and have decided on the following strategy:

- Following legal advice from the ACTU, the Unions take the view that transmission of business occurred in NSW when ARTC took over RIC/SRA business. This means that the starting position for the Unions remains that the conditions in the RIC/SRA agreements form the basis for the negotiations.
- It follows therefore that the new ARTC agreement should contain conditions no less than those in the RIC/SRA agreements.

ARTC has expressed a desire for an agreement to cover all ARTC direct employees – the Unions support this position but reiterate that we will not agree to standards lower than the RIC/SRA agreements.

At yesterday's meeting, the Unions also approached ARTC for several delegates to be booked off and paid to attend future negotiations.

ARTC is now seeking advice about the transmission of business implications and about delegates attending meetings. The Unions have written to ARTC seeking a response within fourteen days.

Finally, ARTC has advised the Unions that company representatives are not available to meet for another four weeks. This is a disappointing response from ARTC.

Next meetings have been set for 4th/5th August and 18th/19th August 2005.

If members of the joint Unions or other ARTC employees require more information about the negotiations, or would like to make a suggestion, please contact your Union Organiser:

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This Newsletter circulates to all ARTC employees and RIC Secondees in NSW, South Australia and Victoria.

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