

RTBU EXPRESS

The Official Newsletter of the Rail Divisions of the RTBU Victorian Branch
VOL 3 | Issue 8 | 21 April 2016



Letter from Secretary

V/LINE ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT UPDATE



**Luba
Grigorovitch**
State Secretary

V/Line members should be aware that all Divisions of the Union have been continuing discussions with V/line in relation

to the Operations and Infrastructure Enterprise Agreement's (EA) that are yet to be completed. Both of these V/Line EA's expired in June 2015.

Members should know that an offer was put by V/Line which asked for a 12 month extension to the current EA, however cheekishly V/Line asked for work practises that were currently on trial to remain in place, and a range of other changes to be part of the 'extension'.

For this V/Line was offering a measly 1% increase. Insultingly the offer included no back-pay and no rise in your hourly backdated rate. V/Line did however offer a one off payment of \$2000, this would have been swallowed up in tax. This offer was rejected outright by the bargaining team and Rail Operations Delegates.

Following this sub-standard offer the RTBU bargaining team has placed a time limit of one month on negotiations, if no serious progress is made within the month the RTBU will have no choice but to lodge for protected industrial action on behalf of members.

Consequently I arranged a meeting with the Acting V/line CEO to discuss negotiations. Primarily I spoke to him about the importance of getting an acceptable EA completed as soon as possible, whilst ensuring conditions and wages are maintained for all members.

I have spoken to the relevant RTBU Divisional Secretaries and members of the EA bargaining team and I am told that we are still fighting V/Line around some core claims that have been put by the RTBU on behalf of members. It is never an easy fight, but it is one that must be had to ensure the end result is one members can be confident with.

This week I am attending a mass meeting at Southern Cross depot at 1.30pm on Thursday 21 April, I encourage any members to attend this meeting – however if you are unable to attend and would like to speak to myself or an Official from the V/Line EA bargaining team please call the Union office.

Jamie Porter, RTBU Organiser will be arranging meetings in the regions in coming weeks.

Members should know that although this EA has been dragged out, the RTBU will not settle for a sub-standard EA. Members deserve a good agreement and as always the RTBU will fight for this!

Luba Grigorovitch
- State Secretary

VICTRACK EA FULL STEAM AHEAD



Jamie Porter
Organiser

The VicTrack bargaining meetings have been ongoing on a regular basis since late November 2015, after close

to 5 months of bargaining the RTBU and bargaining team will be provided with a draft EA within the coming weeks.

Some key items of negotiations so far are:

- 4 year agreement
- Higher Classification payments
- Improved Performance Incentive
- Top of band payments
- Achievable SDPP
- New Classification structure

This has been a long process and still could be a fair way off unless key items are fixed within this agreement. One of, if not the most important claim is having a revised classification structure. So far many hours has been spent working on this claim to fix the humiliating and degrading scores that were delivered from the Classification review from Hays recruitment last year.

Ensuring that our members a correctly classified, remunerated and most importantly appreciated for the hard work they do is on top of our list and an agreed classification structure is a line in the sand.

Members seeking further information can contact me directly on 0403863869.



AROUND THE TRAPS



Darren Galea
Rail Operations Division

Monthly RTBU Delegate meetings have been arranged across the network in the Operations Division for Metrol,

Timetables/Rosters, Drivers Allocation Office, Authorised Officers, Station grades, Wilsons Security Luggage Haul and Network Security Surveillance.

Delegates for each area would be aware of when the next meeting for their area is happening. If you have any issues, queries or concerns that you want raised directly with the union and management then make sure you approach your delegate and urge them to raise your workplace issues at the upcoming delegate's meeting.

If there is anything more pressing please don't hesitate to call either myself or Grant Wainwright.



RTBU Secretary Luba Grigorovitch with RTBU Members Tsui Ming and Glen Pereira at last week's Cheltenham Station Delegates meeting.

VITAL SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS SECURED



GRANT WAINWRIGHT
Organiser

In a positive development for our industry, the State Government has announced \$134

million worth of upgrades to improve safety standards on the Melbourne City Loop.

This will come as welcome news to all rail workers who must navigate health and safety hazards on the network as a daily fact of their working lives.

The Victorian Government's upgrade plans include plans to install:

- State-of-the-art intruder detection technology
- New CCTV cameras, alarms and platform barriers
- Sprinkler systems in Melbourne Central, Parliament and Flagstaff stations
- A smoke management system

These safety changes will be introduced side-by-side with the construction of the Melbourne Metro Rail project.

Metro employees and customers alike will gain from these safety changes. Far too often, staff have borne the greatest risk to their safety on the network – not only by navigating the day-to-day hazards of the City Loop, by putting themselves between passengers and dangerous situations.

There are still many more improvements to be made to safety standards in the network. The RTBU's priority is and remains ensuring that it is the company who undertake to improve safety standards, rather than shifting the responsibility onto the workforce. In the meantime, the Union will be working to ensure that this safety overhaul on the City Loop is a step in the right direction.



WORKERS COMPENSATION 1800 555 777

The compensation meant **I wasn't also hurt financially.**



Contact us

rtbuvic.com.au
(03) 8630 9100

Level 2, 365 Queen Street,
Melbourne, VIC 3000

E rtbu@rtbuvic.com.au
F 03 8630 9122

State Secretary
Luba Grigorovitch

Rail Operations / Administration
Organiser: Grant Wainwright

Infrastructure Division
Secretary: Jon Saw

Admin & Salaried Division
Secretary: Steven Kozmevski

Rail Operations Division
Organiser: Darren Galea

Admin & Salaried Division
Organiser: Jamie Porter

Workshops Division
Secretary: Paul Jumpertz

Industrial Officer
Rima Tawil

Infrastructure, Workshops & Labour Hire
Organiser: Bryan Evans

