

FAIR WORK COMMISSION

Fair Work Act 2009
Section 175
Making of a modern industry award

Proposed Australian Government Industry Award 2016 (AM2016/12)

REPLY OF THE AUSTRALIAN MANUFACTURING WORKERS' UNION

1. The Automotive, Food, Metals, Engineering, Printing and Kindred Industries Union (AMWU) refers to the outline of submissions and associated evidence provided to the Fair Work Commission on 1st June, 2016 by the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) in relation to the proposed Australian Government Industry Award 2016 (Industry Award).
2. The AMWU has as members technical and trade employees within the following agencies which will fall within the coverage of the Industry Award:
 - Australian Hearing Services
 - Australian Institute of Marine Science
 - Australian Maritime Safety Authority
 - National Gallery of Australia
3. The AMWU has read paragraphs 18 to 20 inclusive of the statement of Ms. Donna Tait, Director Conditions Policy within the APSC's Workplace Relations Group, as submitted on 1st June, 2016. It can confirm that, to the extent that those paragraphs concern the AMWU's participation in the drafting process, they are accurate.
4. In relation to paragraph 14 of Ms. Tait's statement, the AMWU can advise that it regularly saw drafts of the various agency-specific schedules to the Industry Award as they were developed and was able to and did consult with the agencies concerned, where thought necessary.
5. The AMWU supports the making of the Industry Award in the terms proposed.
6. The AMWU does not intend to challenge at hearing any aspect of the materials submitted by the APSC on 1st June, 2016.
7. Without detracting from other aspects of the APSC's outline of submissions, the AMWU strongly supports the arguments advanced at paragraphs 6.2 to 6.14 inclusive of that outline. In the absence of the Industry Award, the modern award most likely to apply to the AMWU's membership would be the Manufacturing and Associated Industries and Occupations Award 2010 (MA10). MA10 is a private industry award which has been developed with little if any regard paid to the history of the regulation of the conditions of Commonwealth employees.