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**Sent:** Wednesday, 17 January 2018 8:59 PM  
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**Subject:** RE: AM2014/286 - Site Inspection Proposal

Dear Associate,

We have received the proposal by AED for a focus group centred around a social enterprise that utilises the SWS instead of an ADE utilising the SWS for a site inspection in the current proceedings and respond as follows:-

1. A Social enterprise is not an Australian Disability Enterprise.(ADE) There are some differences in purpose, outcome and representation at national level
2. The majority of workers in our ADE's have an intellectual disability
3. That disability is usually permanent – not episodic.
4. Our Voice Australia's role in these current proceedings is to represent our family workers with intellectual disability – their families and carers- and how supported employment wages will be determined in the Modern Award.
5. The attachment explains our role as family carers – in this instance.

We feel the following points are relevant in relation to the latest request by AED Legal Centre

1. On 16 December, 2013 the Health Services Union(HSU) and United Voice(UV) lodged their application to vary the Supported Employment Services Award (SESA 2010)- subsequently AM2013/30
2. *4(b) of their application states "providing for the Supported Wage System to be the only wage assessment tool permitted for the assessment of the wages of employees reliant upon the Award"*.
3. On 3 February, 2014 AED Legal sought to intervene in these proceedings – supporting, as their long history (2002-2018) confirms – the same specific Award outcome being sought by the HSU and UV – and now proposed by AED Legal in AM2014/286 – ie the mandatory insertion of the SWS as the only wage assessment tool in the SESA(2010) – the Modern Award.

It is now 2018 – **AM2013/30** and **AM2014/286** have been on foot for more than 4 years –

Whilst AED Legal state they *"are concerned the site inspections thus organised neglect to consider any Enterprises that utilise the Supported Wage System (SWS) and therefore do not represent a balanced view "* we believe they have had more than sufficient time to organise a proposal for a site inspection that, they feel, is better representative of a Disability Enterprise utilising the Supported Wage System – i.e. An Australian Disability Enterprise using the SWS (whilst in the minority – they do exist).

AED Legal is a resourced rights based Association of Employees with Disability and part of the rights-based Commonwealth funded advocacy movement who have refused to advocate for our families/carers and/or family members working in our ADE's.

AED Legal have had both the time and the resources to organise themselves – and their associated interests.

We ask that any decision to accommodate their request should be cognisant that a Social Enterprise using an SWS is different to an ADE.

The enterprise suggested by AED Legal is an excellent example of a social enterprise – and the Supported Wage System for specific purposes - but it is not an Australian Disability Enterprise. It also does not have national representation on an issue with national/regional ramifications.

We would have welcomed a comparable site inspection by AED Legal but question that this proposal – as advanced- is representative of the issues under deliberation.

Mary Walsh  
Regional Co-ordinator  
Our Voice Australia