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CWU T&S WEEKLY BULLETIN NO 2026/40 – 22 NOV 2026

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TZV BANS BY SUPPORT STAFF
On Saturday TZV Support staff commenced protected industrial action. As TZV is dealing with critical and threatening emergency situations, we necessarily needed to ensure that no life was put at risk. Apart from that exemption, we implemented 6 bans commencing last Saturday morning. Our committee will meet on Tuesday afternoon to review progress and to consider further bans.

TZV BANS
CWU Members will be engaging in protected industrial action for 7 days from midnight Fri 20 Nov 26 until midnight Fri 27 Nov 26. The following bans will apply during the period notified above, at all sites, by all CEPU Support members: *1. attending workplace in person unless critical or remote work is physically impossible.* . **More**

TZV EMAILS RE BANS
In relation to an EMP, we decide when bans are suspended and resumed, not TZV. The tone of TZV emails infer that it is their call. We wrote to TZV today re the EMP on Saturday. We said: *We refer to your email on late Friday night* . **More**

NBN TRAINING - DISCIPLINARY ACTION CONCERNS
Field Engineer members in NBN have raised concerns in relation to being instructed that they are required to train new FEs. One of the issues of serious concern is the possibility of network interruptions and members being subjected to disciplinary action as a result. . **More**

NBN TRAINING BROADER ISSUES
Some other issues that arise from members being directed to perform on the job training are the use of unqualified instructors, inconsistency of training standards, use of improper training methods…. . **More**

TELSTRA TRAVEL COST ALLOWANCE POLICY UPDATE:
Following Telstra's release of its revised Travel Cost Allowance policy arrangements, your Union sought detailed clarification on a range of issues including accommodation costs, camping arrangements, fatigue management, home returns, financial risk, evidence requirements and approval processes. . **More**

TA - ACCOMMODATION COSTS AND COVERAGE
One of the Union's primary concerns was whether the allowance rates would adequately cover the real costs incurred by members while travelling for work. Telstra advised that it intends to broadly review Travel Cost Allowance rates annually . **More**

TA - EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS
We also sought clarification regarding the evidence requirements attached to the new arrangements. Telstra confirmed that it requires members to keep records of travel-related expenditure. For accommodation, a valid tax invoice . **More**

TA - CAMPING, REMOTE TRAVEL AND SAFETY
The introduction of the new Remote Area Camping Allowance generated significant concern amongst members and was raised extensively by the Union. Telstra advised that the Remote Area Camping Allowance is new . **More**

TA - EXTENDED TRAVEL, HOME RETURNS AND WELL BEING
The Union also sought clarification around long-term travel arrangements, family responsibilities and member well being. Telstra confirmed that members travelling for more than 28 days will return home every fourth weekend, with travel home generally rostered and paid as work time . **More**

TA - FINANCIAL RISK, CLAIMS AND ADVANCES
Another significant issue raised by the Union was the financial burden potentially created by work-related travel. Telstra advised that members who cannot personally fund travel costs can request a cash advance before travel commences. . **More**

TA - TRANSPARENCY REMAINS AN ONGOING CONCERN
As part of its review, the Union requested information that would allow us to conduct our own assessment of how the policy operates in practice. This included data relating to exception approvals, rejected claims, camping arrangements… . **More**

TELSTRA - TRAVEL TIME OVERTIME
CWU Question: *At what rate will they be paid when returning home on a weekend*. Telstra Reply: *Where Logon arrangements apply and an employee is required to travel on a weekend from a TA location to their nominal 'home', subject to the two scenarios outlined in my previous email, any travel time outside the employee's weekly hours of work will be paid at the applicable overtime rate.*

This Bulletin is sent to members of the CWU T&S Branch and some complimentary addresses.
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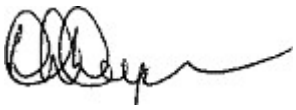
Our Office is on 03 9663 6815, email office@cwu.asn.au MTWT

Yours faithfully,



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