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No. 4

QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

*Industrial Relations Act 1999
Industrial Relations (Tribunals) Rules 2000*

NOTICE

The following Agreements have been certified by the Commission:

No/s	Title	Certified on and certificate issued	Cancelling
CA405/04	Woolworths Supermarkets Distribution Centres (Townsville) – Certified Agreement	30/8/04	CA309/02
CA406/04	Wattyl Trade Paint Centres – Certified Agreement 2004	30/8/04	CA403/01
CA412/04	Transit Australia Pty Ltd t/a Sunshine Coast Sunbus – Certified Agreement 2004	30/8/04	
CA419/04	Smail Etemovic t/a ARCE Building Services Certified Agreement	2/9/04	
CA420/04	BP Shopfitting (Qld) Pty Ltd Certified Agreement	2/9/04	
CA360/04	Carter Holt Harvey Cartons, Crestmead – Certified Agreement 2004	6/9/04	CA321/02
CA408/04	Pebblecrete Insitu Pty Ltd Certified Agreement	6/9/04	
CA409/04	Byrnes & Thompson Australia Pty Ltd t/a B&T Cranes – Certified Agreement	6/9/04	
CA418/04	Dunlop Bedding (Queensland) – Certified Agreement 2004	6/9/04	CA438/02
CA426/04	Brisbane Girls' Grammar School – Certified Agreement 2004	6/9/04	CA35/01
CA427/04	Compass Group – Certified Agreement 2004	6/9/04	CA747/00
CA430/04	Kingaroy Shire Council Enterprise Bargaining Certified Agreement 2004	6/9/04	CA16/02
CA413/04	Placer Pacific (Osborne) Pty Limited – Certified Agreement 2004	8/9/04	CA58/01
CA414/04	Claypave Pty Ltd - Ipswich Collective Bargaining – Certified Agreement	8/9/04	CA348/02
CA421/04	S.G.S. Australia Pty Ltd – Mackay Laboratory Certified Agreement 2004	8/9/04	CA488/02
CA428/04	Hanson Construction Materials Pty Ltd – Central Queensland Quarry, Sand and Gravel Operations – Certified Agreement 2004-2007	8/9/04	
CA435/04	Driza-Bone Pty Ltd – Certified Agreement 2004	9/9/04	CA355/03

No/s	Title	Certified on and certificate issued	Cancelling
CA436/04	TCFUA Qld Branch – Mundi Clothing Company Pty Ltd – Certified Agreement 2004	9/9/04	CA524/02
CA437/04	Walter Construction Group Limited Certified Agreement	9/9/04	
CA438/04	Garry Hurst Concrete Cutting Pty Ltd Certified Agreement	9/9/04	
CA439/04	Cantor Contracting Pty Ltd Certified Agreement	9/9/04	
CA440/04	Hycon Pty Ltd Certified Agreement	9/9/04	
CA443/04	Decorative Glass Co Pty Ltd – Certified Agreement	9/9/04	
CA444/04	MPA Stanwell – Certified Agreement 2004	9/9/04	CA29/02
CA422/04	Giru Daycare Association Inc. – Certified Agreement	14/9/04	

The following Agreement has been amended by the Commission:

CA27/04	Daydream Island – Certified Agreement 2003	14/9/04	
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G.D. SAVILL
Industrial Registrar.

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 74 – application for reinstatement

Chris Weatherhead AND Lock & Hardware Supplies Pty Ltd t/a Stronglok (No. B948 of 2004)

ACTING DEPUTY PRESIDENT FISHER

9 September 2004

Unfair dismissal – Unilateral damage to employment contract – No warnings issued – Allegations of misconduct – No opportunity to respond – Allegation denied – Dismissal harsh, unjust or unreasonable – Compensation and costs awarded.

REPORT ON DECISION (as edited)

In giving her decision from the Bench on 2 September 2004, Acting Deputy President Fisher stated:

“The matter before the Commission today is an application for reinstatement filed by Chris Weatherhead against his former employer, Lock and Hardware Supplies Pty Ltd trading as Stronglok.

I should note that the Respondent Company has not entered an appearance today. I am satisfied that the Respondent was aware of today’s proceedings. I am aware of telephone conversations between my usual Associate and Mr John Hung, Operations Manager of the Respondent, and further there has been correspondence between Mr John Hung and the Industrial Registry, my office and the Vice President’s office regarding the hearing of this application and the consequences of the application being heard in the absence of the Respondent. As recently as last Friday the Vice President wrote to Mr Hung advising that the application would be proceeding to hearing today despite Mr Hung’s request for an adjournment. In the circumstances I am satisfied that the Respondent knew this application would be heard today and that orders could be made against the Respondent in the event it elected not to appear.

On the material before me the Applicant was advised of his dismissal from the position of General Manager of the Respondent by memorandum dated 1 June 2004. The reason for the dismissal given in the memorandum was performance issues. Although a number of issues were under discussion between Mr Weatherhead and Mr Thomas Hung, a Director of the Respondent, prior to that time there does not appear to have been any warnings given or forewarning of the dismissal. I note that Mr Weatherhead was retained in the employ of the Respondent after 1 June 2004 but that the Respondent intended that employ to be in the substantially reduced position of Warehouse Assistant. At the time Mr Weatherhead objected to his termination from the position of General Manager and the demotion to the position of Warehouse Assistant.

It appears that Mr Weatherhead attended for work for a few days after the termination from his position of General Manager but continued to resist the demotion to the more junior position. I accept that the actions of the Respondent in the dispute conference before Commissioner Bechly especially given the nature of the allegations raised there brought the relationship to its final conclusion.

The Commission is aware that serious allegations have been made against Mr Weatherhead by the Respondent. But allegations are what they remain at this stage as they have not been tested in these or other proceedings. I should record that Mr Weatherhead has strongly objected to and refuted all allegations of poor performance or misconduct. Given that the Respondent has elected not to appear in these proceedings and to put the allegations to Mr Weatherhead I am bound to accept the sworn evidence that has been presented by the Applicant.

In the circumstances I accept that the unilateral change to Mr Weatherhead’s employment contract was so fundamental that it constituted a dismissal. I further find that the dismissal was harsh, unjust or unreasonable. Mr Weatherhead was not warned about his performance nor given an opportunity to respond to any allegations. While he was notified that the reason for the termination from his position of General Manager was for performance issues, the matters subsequently raised by the Respondent seem to relate more to conduct. These matters have been denied by the Applicant in sworn evidence.

I also accept that the manner of the termination was considerably less than desirable and was designed to embarrass Mr Weatherhead.

It is apparent from the material before me that reinstatement or reemployment is impracticable. The employment relationship has irretrievably broken down. The element of trust which is fundamental to any employment relationship has long since disappeared from this one. Accordingly I find that compensation is the appropriate remedy.

Mr Weatherhead has given evidence today of his attempts to mitigate his loss. I accept that actions of the Respondent have hindered him in this regard.

Compensation

Mr Weatherhead has sought compensation in the amount of 6 months' wages. Some of this is sought in lieu of holiday pay and other entitlements not paid. In my view those are amounts that are recoverable elsewhere. The Commission's jurisdiction is to compensate where a dismissal is found to be harsh, unjust or unreasonable.

Mr Weatherhead was dismissed from the General Manager's position on 1 June 2004. He has been out of work for 3 months and despite his attempts at mitigation may also remain out of work for a further period. The manner of the dismissal and the allegations levelled against him without the opportunity to respond to them will also be damaging to his attempts to find alternative employment. In the circumstances the Commission considers that compensation in the amount of six months wages is appropriate. The salary Mr Weatherhead received in the position of General Manager was \$65,000 per annum. Accordingly, the Commission orders that the Respondent pay to the Applicant the sum of \$32,500. Such amount is to be taxed according to law. The Commission further orders that the amount of compensation be paid by the Respondent to the Applicant within 22 days of today, 2 September 2004.

Costs

The Applicant has sought that costs be awarded against the Respondent. The power for an order for costs is found in s. 335 of the *Industrial Relations Act 1999*. The order is sought because costs were caused to be incurred by the Applicant because of an unreasonable act or omission of the Respondent connected with the conduct of the application. In this regard the Applicant referred to the attempt to resolve the matter by seeking a dispute conference before the Commission shortly after his termination from the position of General Manager. The Respondent is said to have terminated his involvement in the conference and did not wish to engage in a discussion about a resolution of the matters. Accordingly, in order to pursue the matter the Applicant was compelled to file this application.

The critical issue here is whether there has been an unreasonable act or omission connected with the conduct of the application by the Respondent. In *Coco's Trading Pty Ltd v O'Reilly* (2003) 174 QGIG 102 Hall P considered the issue of whether an omission to mediate in a constructive way may be held to be an "omission connected with the conduct of the application". Hall P decided that the exercise of power at s. 335 (1)(b) of the Act may be triggered by conduct in relation to mediation.

The way the matter of Mr Weatherhead's termination progressed in this Commission is that it came before the Commission originally by way of dispute conference. When the matter could not be dealt with there because of the conduct of the Respondent, the application for reinstatement was filed with the dispute conference being considered to be the conference required under s. 73 of the Act. I accept that in light of the conduct of the Respondent the issues about the termination of Mr Weatherhead from the position of General Manager could not be mediated. But that was not conduct connected with the application that is now before the Commission.

What then has been the unreasonable act or omission on the part of the Respondent? Certainly the Applicant has been put to cost in having the matter proceed to a hearing. However, he did not have the cost of the s. 73 conference nor did he incur costs in instructing his agent to respond to material filed by the Respondent or the costs of a full day of hearing. I accept however that the conduct of the Respondent during this matter in failing to respond to Directions of the Commission has not allowed any opportunity for settlement discussions. In the circumstances I think the best that I can do is to award costs for today in the amount of \$800.00. This amount has been fixed according to Scale G of the Magistrate's Court scale and has been marginally discounted because the representative is not a solicitor and not a full day of hearing has been used. Accordingly, the Commission orders the Respondent pay the sum of \$800.00 to the Applicant by way of costs within 22 days of today, 2 September 2004.

Order

Given the absence of an appearance by the Respondent today I think it would be prudent if the Registrar was to issue an Order so that the Applicant can seek to enforce it in the appropriate jurisdiction.

I reserve the right to edit these reasons."

Order accordingly.

By the Commission, [L.S.] G. SAVILL, Industrial Registrar. Hearing Details: 2004 2 September	Appearances: Mr C. Pollard of Jones Ross, for the Applicant. No appearance by the Respondent. Released: 9 September 2004
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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 87 – orders about severance allowance and other separation benefits

**Australasian Meat Industry Union of Employees (Queensland Branch)
 AND Overseas Game Meat Export Pty Ltd (No. B205 of 2004)**

COMMISSIONER BECHLY

FURTHER DECISION

13 September 2004

A decision on this matter was issued on 23 July 2004 which required the parties to provide certain information within stipulated time frames. The applicants complied with the requirement but no information was provided by the respondent. On approach from the Commission the respondent advised that it was unaware of the decision. A further time frame was provided to the respondent to supply the information sought. No such information has been provided.

It is ordered that Overseas Game Meat Export Pty Ltd pay, within fourteen days of the release date of this further Decision, the following:

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To Mr Anthony Beck

- Ten weeks' wages in accordance with the decision – (10 x 38 x \$17.50) \$6,650.00

To Mr Paul Paraha

- Ten weeks' wages in accordance with the decision – (10 x 38 x \$17.50) \$6,650.00
- Reimbursement of annual leave wrongfully deducted and including unpaid annual leave and loading \$2,403.94

Tax to be deducted according to law.

R.E. BECHLY, Commissioner.

Appearances:

Mr M. Stroppiano, of Australasian Meat Industry Union of Employees (Queensland Branch), on behalf of the Applicant.

Mr C. Harwood, on behalf of Overseas Game Meat Export Pty Ltd.

Hearing Details:
2004 7 June

Released: 13 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland AND Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited,
Industrial Organisation of Employers and Others (No. B1590 of 2003)**

QUEENSLAND AIDS COUNCIL INCORPORATED ENTERPRISE AWARD – STATE 2003

COMMISSIONER BECHLY

28 May 2004

AMENDMENT

THIS matter coming on for hearing before the Commission at Brisbane on 28 May 2004, this Commission orders that the said Award be amended as follows as from 1 December 2003:

By deleting clauses 4.10 (Termination of Employment), 4.11 (Introduction of Changes) and 4.12 (Redundancy) and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

“4.10 Termination of employment

4.10.1 *Statement of employment*

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.10.2 *Termination by employer*

(a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year.....	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years.....	3 weeks
More than 5 years.....	4 weeks

(b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least 2 years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.

(c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:

Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.

(d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:

- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
- (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
- (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

(e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.10.3 *Notice of termination by employee*

The notice of termination required to be given by an employee shall be one week, or payment forfeited in lieu thereof.

4.10.4 *Time off during notice period*

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.11 **Introduction of changes**

4.11.1 *Employer's duty to notify*

- (a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.11.2 *Employer's duty to consult over change*

- (a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their Union or Unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternative employment).
- (b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.11.1.
- (c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.12 **Redundancy**

4.12.1 *Consultation before terminations*

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.12.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse effects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their Union or Unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.12.2 *Transfer to lower paid duties*

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out in clause 4.12.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee's employment had been terminated under clause 4.10.
- (b) The employer may, at the employer's option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

4.12.3 *Transmission of business*

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmittor of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
 - (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmittor or any prior transmittor shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.

- (b) In clause 4.12.3, 'business' includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and 'transmission' includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and 'transmitted' has a corresponding meaning.

4.12.4 *Time off during notice period*

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.12.1, the employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.12.5 *Notice to Centrelink*

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.12.1, the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.12.6 *Severance pay*

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.10.2(a), and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.12.1(a), shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years.....	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years.....	16

- (b) 'Weeks' Pay' means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.12.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and
- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.12.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.12.1(a), may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.12.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.12.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.12 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.12.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.12 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or
- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.12.12 *Employers exempted*

- (a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.12 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.
- (b) A 'company' shall be defined as:
 - (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
 - (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
 - (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.12.13 *Exemption where transmission of business*

- (a) The provisions of clause 4.12.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:
 - (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter, and any prior transmitter, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
 - (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:
 - (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmitter; and
 - (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter and any prior transmitter to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) The Commission may amend clause 4.12.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.12.14 *Incapacity to pay*

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer's incapacity to pay."

Dated 28 May 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Acting Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
Amendment – TCR Provisions
Released: 13 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland AND Australian Mines and Metals Association (Inc.)
Queensland Branch (No. B1590 of 2003)**

QUEENSLAND NICKEL EMPLOYEES' AWARD – STATE 2003

COMMISSIONER BECHLY

28 May 2004

AMENDMENT

THIS matter coming on for hearing before the Commission at Brisbane on 28 May 2004, this Commission orders that the said Award be amended as follows as from 1 December 2003:

By deleting clauses 4.4 (Termination of Employment), 4.5 (Introduction of Changes) and 4.6 (Redundancy) and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

“4.4 Termination of employment

4.4.1 *Statement of employment*

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.4.2 *Termination by employer*

- (a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year.....	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years.....	3 weeks
More than 5 years.....	4 weeks

- (b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least 2 years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.
- (c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:
- Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.
- (d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:
- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.
- (e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.4.3 *Notice of termination by employee*

The notice to terminate the contract of employment, a full-time or part time employee must give at least two days' notice or forfeit a maximum of one weeks' pay in lieu thereof.

4.4.4 *Time off during notice period*

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.5 **Introduction of changes**

4.5.1 *Employer's duty to notify*

- (a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.5.2 *Employer's duty to consult over change*

- (a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their Union or Unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternative employment).
- (b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.5.1.
- (c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.6 **Redundancy**

4.6.1 *Consultation before terminations*

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.6.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse effects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their Union or Unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.6.2 *Transfer to lower paid duties*

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out in clause 4.6.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee's employment had been terminated under clause 4.4.

- (b) The employer may, at the employer’s option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee’s employment contract.

4.6.3 *Transmission of business*

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmittor of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
 - (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmittor or any prior transmittor shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) In clause 4.6.3, ‘business’ includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and ‘transmission’ includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and ‘transmitted’ has a corresponding meaning.

4.6.4 *Time off during notice period*

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.6.1, the employee shall be allowed up to one day’s time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.6.5 *Notice to Centrelink*

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.6.1, the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.6.6 *Severance pay*

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.4.2(a), and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.6.1(a), shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks’ pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years.....	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years.....	16

- (b) ‘Weeks’ Pay’ means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.6.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and
- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.6.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.6.1(a), may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.6.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.6.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.6 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.6.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.6 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or
- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.6.12 *Employers exempted*

- (a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.6 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.
- (b) A 'company' shall be defined as:
 - (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
 - (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
 - (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.6.13 *Exemption where transmission of business*

- (a) The provisions of clause 4.6.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:
 - (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmittor, and any prior transmittor, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
 - (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:
 - (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmittor; and
 - (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmittor and any prior transmittor to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) The Commission may amend clause 4.6.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.6.14 *Incapacity to pay*

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer's incapacity to pay."

Dated 28 May 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
Amendment – TCR Provisions
Released: 13 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION
Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland AND Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited,
Industrial Organisation of Employers (No. B1590 of 2003)**

QUEENSLAND MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICES AWARD – STATE 2003

AMENDMENT

THIS matter coming on for hearing before the Commission at Brisbane on 28 May 2004, this Commission orders that the said Award be amended as follows as from 1 December 2003:

By deleting clauses 4.8 (Termination of Employment), 4.9 (Introduction of Changes) and 4.10 (Redundancy) and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

“4.8 Termination of employment**4.8.1 Statement of employment**

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.8.2 Termination by employer

(a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year.....	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years.....	3 weeks
More than 5 years.....	4 weeks

(b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least 2 years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.

(c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:

Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.

(d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:

- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
- (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
- (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

(e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.8.3 Notice of termination by employee

The notice to terminate the contract of employment, a full-time or part time employee must give at least one week's notice or forfeit a maximum of one weeks' pay in lieu thereof.

4.8.4 Time off during notice period

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.9 Introduction of changes**4.9.1 Employer's duty to notify**

(a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their Union or Unions.

(b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.9.2 Employer's duty to consult over change

(a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their Union or Unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternative employment).

(b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.9.1.

(c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.10 Redundancy

4.10.1 Consultation before terminations

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.10.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse effects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their Union or Unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.10.2 Transfer to lower paid duties

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out in clause 4.10.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee's employment had been terminated under clause 4.8.
- (b) The employer may, at the employer's option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

4.10.3 Transmission of business

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmittor of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
 - (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmittor or any prior transmittor shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) In clause 4.10.3, 'business' includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and 'transmission' includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and 'transmitted' has a corresponding meaning.

4.10.4 Time off during notice period

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.10.1, the employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.10.5 Notice to Centrelink

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.10.1, the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.10.6 Severance pay

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.8.2(a), and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.10.1(a), shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years.....	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years.....	16

(b) 'Weeks' Pay' means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.10.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and
- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.10.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.10.1(a), may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.10.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.10.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.10 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.10.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.10 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or
- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.10.12 *Employers exempted*

(a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.10 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.

(b) A 'company' shall be defined as:

- (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
- (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
- (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.10.13 *Exemption where transmission of business*

(a) The provisions of clause 4.10.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:

- (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter, and any prior transmitter, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
- (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:

- (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmitter; and
 - (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter and any prior transmitter to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) The Commission may amend clause 4.10.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.10.14 Incapacity to pay

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer's incapacity to pay."

Dated 28 May 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
Amendment – TCR Provisions
Released: 13 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland AND Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited,
Industrial Organisation of Employers (No. B1590 of 2003)**

RACECOURSE EMPLOYEES AWARD – SOUTHERN DIVISION (EASTERN DISTRICT) 2003

COMMISSIONER BECHLY

28 May 2004

AMENDMENT

THIS matter coming on for hearing before the Commission at Brisbane on 28 May 2004, this Commission orders that the said Award be amended as follows as from 1 December 2003:

By deleting clauses 4.6 (Termination of Employment), 4.7 (Introduction of Changes) and 4.8 (Redundancy) and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

“4.6 Termination of employment

4.6.1 *Statement of employment*

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.6.2 *Termination by employer*

(a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years	3 weeks
More than 5 years	4 weeks

(b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least 2 years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.

(c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:

Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.

(d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:

- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
- (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
- (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

(e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.6.3 *Notice of termination by employee*

The notice of termination required to be given by an employee shall be 2 days. If an employee fails to give notice, the employer shall have the right to withhold monies due to the employee with a maximum amount equal to the ordinary time rate for the period of notice.

4.6.4 *Time off during notice period*

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.7 **Introduction of changes**

4.7.1 *Employer's duty to notify*

- (a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.7.2 *Employer's duty to consult over change*

- (a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their Union or Unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternative employment).
- (b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.7.1.
- (c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.8 **Redundancy**

4.8.1 *Consultation before terminations*

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.8.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse effects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their Union or Unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.8.2 *Transfer to lower paid duties*

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee's employment had been terminated under clause 4.6.
- (b) The employer may, at the employer's option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

4.8.3 *Transmission of business*

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmittor of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
 - (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmittor or any prior transmittor shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.

- (b) In clause 4.8.3, 'business' includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and 'transmission' includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and 'transmitted' has a corresponding meaning.

4.8.4 *Time off during notice period*

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.8.1, the employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.8.5 *Notice to Centrelink*

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.8.1, the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.8.6 *Severance pay*

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.6.2(a), and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1(a), shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years.....	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years.....	16

- (b) 'Weeks' Pay' means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.8.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and
- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.8.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1(a), may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.8.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.8.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.8 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.8.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.8 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or
- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.8.12 Employers exempted

- (a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.8 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.
- (b) A 'company' shall be defined as:
 - (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
 - (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
 - (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.8.13 Exemption where transmission of business

- (a) The provisions of clause 4.8.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:
 - (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter, and any prior transmitter, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
 - (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:
 - (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmitter; and
 - (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter and any prior transmitter to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) The Commission may amend clause 4.8.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.8.14 Incapacity to pay

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer's incapacity to pay."

Dated 28 May 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
Amendment – TCR Provisions
Released: 10 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland AND Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited,
Industrial Organisation of Employers (No. B1590 of 2003)**

SPORTS GROUND EMPLOYEES' AWARD – SOUTHERN DIVISION (EASTERN DISTRICT) 2002

COMMISSIONER BECHLY

28 May 2004

AMENDMENT

THIS matter coming on for hearing before the Commission at Brisbane on 28 May 2004, this Commission orders that the said Award be amended as follows as from 1 December 2003:

By deleting clauses 4.5 (Termination of Employment), 4.6 (Introduction of Changes) and 4.7 (Redundancy) and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

“4.5 Termination of employment

4.5.1 Statement of employment

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.5.2 Termination by employer

- (a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years	3 weeks
More than 5 years	4 weeks

- (b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least two years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.
- (c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:
 Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.
- (d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.
- (e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.5.3 *Notice of termination by employee*

The notice of termination required to be given by an employee shall be the same as that required of an employer, save and except that there shall be no additional notice based on the age of the employee concerned. If an employee fails to give notice, the employer shall have the right to withhold monies due to the employee with a maximum amount equal to the amount the employee would have received under clause 4.5.2.

4.5.4 *Time off during notice period*

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.6 **Introduction of changes**

4.6.1 *Employer's duty to notify*

- (a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their union or unions.
- (b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.6.2 *Employer's duty to consult over change*

- (a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their union or unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternate employment).
- (b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.6.1.
- (c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.7 **Redundancy**

4.7.1 *Consultation before terminations*

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their union or unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.7.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse affects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.7.2 *Transfer to lower paid duties*

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out clause 4.7.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee’s employment had been terminated under clause 4.5.
- (b) The employer may, at the employer’s option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee’s employment contract.

4.7.3 *Transmission of business*

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmitter of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
 - (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmitter or any prior transmitter shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) In clause 4.7.3 ‘business’ includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and ‘transmission’ includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and ‘transmitted’ has a corresponding meaning.

4.7.4 *Time off during notice period*

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.7.1 the employee shall be allowed up to one day’s time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.7.5 *Notice to Centrelink*

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.10.1 the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.7.6 *Severance pay*

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.5.2(a) and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.7.1(a) shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks’ pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years.....	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years.....	16

- (b) ‘Weeks’ Pay’ means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.7.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and

- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.7.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.7.1(a) may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.7.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.7.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.7 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.7.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.7 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or
- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.7.12 *Employers exempted*

- (a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.7 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.
- (b) A 'company' shall be defined as:
 - (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
 - (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
 - (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.7.13 *Exemption where transmission of business*

- (a) The provisions of clause 4.7.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:
 - (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter, and any prior transmitter, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
 - (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:
 - (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmitter; and
 - (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter and any prior transmitter to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) The Commission may amend clause 4.7.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.7.14 *Incapacity to pay*

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer's incapacity to pay."

Dated 28 May 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Acting Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
Amendment – TCR Provisions
Released: 13 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland AND Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited,
Industrial Organisation of Employers (No. B1590 of 2003)**

SURVEYORS' LABOURERS AND COOKS AWARD – STATE 2003

AMENDMENT

THIS matter coming on for hearing before the Commission at Brisbane on 28 May 2004, this Commission orders that the said Award be amended as follows as from 1 December 2003:

By deleting clauses 4.6 (Termination of Employment), 4.7 (Introduction of Changes) and 4.8 (Redundancy) and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

“4.6 Termination of employment**4.6.1 Statement of employment**

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.6.2 Termination by employer

(a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years.....	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years	3 weeks
More than 5 years	4 weeks

(b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least 2 years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.

(c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:

Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.

(d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:

- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
- (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
- (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

(e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.6.3 Notice of termination by employee

The notice of termination required to be given by an employee shall be 3 days' or a forfeiture of a maximum of 3 days' pay.

4.6.4 Time off during notice period

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.7 Introduction of changes**4.7.1 Employer's duty to notify**

(a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their Union or Unions.

(b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.7.2 Employer's duty to consult over change

(a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their Union or Unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternative employment).

(b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.7.1.

(c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.8 Redundancy**4.8.1 Consultation before terminations**

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their Union or Unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.8.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse effects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their Union or Unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.8.2 Transfer to lower paid duties

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee's employment had been terminated under clause 4.6.
- (b) The employer may, at the employer's option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

4.8.3 Transmission of business

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmittor of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
- (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmittor or any prior transmittor shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) In clause 4.8.3, 'business' includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and 'transmission' includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and 'transmitted' has a corresponding meaning.

4.8.4 Time off during notice period

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.8.1, the employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.8.5 Notice to Centrelink

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.8.1, the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.8.6 Severance pay

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.6.2(a), and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1(a), shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years.....	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years.....	16

(b) 'Weeks' Pay' means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.8.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and
- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.8.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.8.1(a), may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.8.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.8.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.8 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.8.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.8 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or
- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.8.12 *Employers exempted*

(a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.8 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.

(b) A 'company' shall be defined as:

- (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
- (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
- (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.8.13 *Exemption where transmission of business*

(a) The provisions of clause 4.8.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmittor) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:

- (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmittor, and any prior transmittor, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
- (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:

- (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmitter; and
- (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter and any prior transmitter to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.

(b) The Commission may amend clause 4.8.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.8.14 *Incapacity to pay*

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer's incapacity to pay."

Dated 28 May 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
Amendment – TCR Provisions
Released: 10 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland AND Queensland Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited,
Industrial Organisation of Employers and Others (No. B1590 of 2003)**

UNITING HEALTHCARE ENTERPRISE AWARD – STATE 2003

COMMISSIONER BECHLY

28 May 2004

AMENDMENT

THIS matter coming on for hearing before the Commission at Brisbane on 28 May 2004, this Commission orders that the said Award be amended as follows as from 1 December 2003:

By deleting clauses 4.9 (Termination of Employment), 4.10 (Introduction of Changes) and 4.11 (Redundancy) and inserting the following in lieu thereof:

“4.9 Termination of employment

4.9.1 *Statement of employment*

An employer shall, in the event of termination of employment, provide upon request to the employee who has been terminated a written statement specifying the period of employment and the classification or type of work performed by the employee.

4.9.2 *Termination by employer*

- (a) An employer may dismiss an employee only if the employee has been given the following notice:

Period of Continuous Service	Period of Notice
Not more than 1 year	1 week
More than 1 year but not more than 3 years.....	2 weeks
More than 3 years but not more than 5 years	3 weeks
More than 5 years	4 weeks

- (b) In addition to the notice in (a) above, employees 45 years old or over and who have completed at least two years' continuous service with the employer shall be entitled to an additional week's notice.

- (c) Payment in lieu of notice shall be made if the appropriate notice is not given:

Provided that employment may be terminated by part of the period of notice specified and part payment in lieu thereof.

- (d) In calculating any payment in lieu of notice the minimum compensation payable to an employee will be at least the total of the amounts the employer would have been liable to pay the employee if the employee's employment had continued until the end of the required notice period. The total must be worked out on the basis of:

- (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
- (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example allowances, loadings and penalties; and
- (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

- (e) The period of notice in this clause shall not apply in the case of dismissal for misconduct or other grounds that justify instant dismissal, or in the case of a casual employee, or an employee engaged by the hour or day, or an employee engaged for a specific period or tasks.

4.9.3 *Notice of termination by employee*

The notice of termination required to be given by an employee shall be one week. If an employee fails to give notice, the employer shall have the right to withhold monies due to the employee with a maximum amount equal to the ordinary time rate for the period of notice.

4.9.4 *Time off during notice period*

During the period of notice of termination given by the employer, an employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay for the purpose of seeking other employment. This time off shall be taken at times that are convenient to the employee after consultation with the employer.

4.10 **Introduction of changes**

4.10.1 *Employer's duty to notify*

- (a) Where an employer decides to introduce changes in production, program, organisation, structure or technology, that are likely to have significant effects on employees, the employer shall notify the employees who may be affected by the proposed changes and, where relevant, their union or unions.
- (b) 'Significant effects' includes termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of employees to other work or locations and the restructuring of jobs:

Provided that where the Award makes provision for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

4.10.2 *Employer's duty to consult over change*

- (a) The employer shall consult the employees affected and, where relevant, their union or unions about the introduction of the changes, the effects the changes are likely to have on employees (including the number and categories of employees likely to be dismissed, and the time when, or the period over which, the employer intends to carry out the dismissals), and the ways to avoid or minimise the effects of the changes (e.g. by finding alternate employment).
- (b) The consultation must occur as soon as practicable after making the decision referred to in clause 4.10.1.
- (c) For the purpose of such consultation the employer shall provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed, the expected effects of the changes on employees, and any other matters likely to affect employees, provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.11 **Redundancy**

4.11.1 *Consultation before terminations*

- (a) Where an employer decides that the employer no longer wishes the job the employee has been doing to be done by anyone, and this is not due to the ordinary and customary turnover of labour, and that decision may lead to termination of employment, the employer shall consult the employee directly affected and where relevant, their union or unions.
- (b) The consultation shall take place as soon as it is practicable after the employer has made a decision, which will invoke the provisions of clause 4.11.1(a) and shall cover the reasons for the proposed terminations, measures to avoid or minimise the terminations and/or their adverse affects on the employees concerned.
- (c) For the purpose of the consultation the employer shall, as soon as practicable, provide in writing to the employees concerned and, where relevant, their union or unions, all relevant information about the proposed terminations including the reasons for the proposed terminations, the number and categories of employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are likely to be carried out:

Provided that any employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information, the disclosure of which would be adverse to the employer's interests.

4.11.2 *Transfer to lower paid duties*

- (a) Where an employee is transferred to lower paid duties for reasons set out clause 4.11.1 the employee shall be entitled to the same period of notice of transfer as the employee would have been entitled to if the employee's employment had been terminated under clause 4.9.
- (b) The employer may, at the employer's option, make payment in lieu thereof of an amount equal to the difference between the former amounts the employer would have been liable to pay and the new lower amount the employer is liable to pay the employee for the number of weeks of notice still owing.
- (c) The amounts must be worked out on the basis of:
 - (i) the ordinary working hours to be worked by the employee; and
 - (ii) the amounts payable to the employee for the hours including for example, allowances, loadings and penalties; and
 - (iii) any other amounts payable under the employee's employment contract.

4.11.3 *Transmission of business*

- (a) Where a business is, whether before or after the date of insertion of this clause in the Award transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), and an employee who at the time of such transmission was an employee of the transmitter of the business, becomes an employee of the transmittee:
 - (i) the continuity of the employment of the employee shall be deemed not to have been broken by reason of such transmission; and
 - (ii) the period of employment which the employee has had with the transmitter or any prior transmitter shall be deemed to be service of the employee with the transmittee.

- (b) In clause 4.11.3 'business' includes trade, process, business or occupation and includes a part or subsidiary (which means a corporation that would be taken to be a subsidiary under the Corporations Law, whether or not the Corporations Law applies in the particular case) of any such business and 'transmission' includes transfer, conveyance, assignment or succession whether by agreement or by operation of law and 'transmitted' has a corresponding meaning.

4.11.4 *Time off during notice period*

- (a) Where a decision has been made to terminate an employee in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.11.1 the employee shall be allowed up to one day's time off without loss of pay during each week of notice for the purpose of seeking other employment.
- (b) If the employee has been allowed paid leave for more than one day during the notice period for the purpose of seeking other employment, the employee shall, at the request of the employer, be required to produce proof of attendance at an interview or the employee shall not receive payment for the time absent. For this purpose a statutory declaration will be sufficient.

4.11.5 *Notice to Centrelink*

Where a decision has been made to terminate employees in the circumstances outlined in clause 4.11.1 the employer shall notify Centrelink as soon as possible giving all relevant information about the proposed terminations, including a written statement of the reasons for the terminations, the number and categories of the employees likely to be affected, the number of workers normally employed and the period over which the terminations are intended to be carried out.

4.11.6 *Severance pay*

- (a) In addition to the period of notice prescribed for ordinary termination in clause 4.9.2(a) and subject to further order of the Commission, an employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.11.1(a) shall be entitled to the following amounts of severance pay:

Period of Continuous Service	Severance Pay (weeks' pay)
Less than 1 year	nil
1 year but not more than 2 years.....	4
More than 2 years but not more than 3 years	6
More than 3 years but not more than 4 years	7
More than 4 years but not more than 5 years	8
More than 5 years but not more than 6 years	9
More than 6 years but not more than 7 years	10
More than 7 years but not more than 8 years	11
More than 8 years but not more than 9 years	12
More than 9 years but not more than 10 years	13
More than 10 years but not more than 11 years	14
More than 11 years but not more than 12 years	15
More than 12 years.....	16

- (b) 'Weeks' Pay' means the ordinary time rate of pay for the employee concerned:

Provided that the following amounts are excluded from the calculation of the ordinary time rate of pay: overtime, penalty rates, disability allowances, shift allowances, special rates, fares and travelling time allowances, bonuses and any other ancillary payments.

4.11.7 *Superannuation benefits*

An employer may make an application to the Commission for relief from the obligation to make severance payments in circumstances where:

- (a) the employer has contributed to a superannuation scheme which provides a particular benefit to an employee in a redundancy situation; and
- (b) the particular benefit to the employee is over and above any benefit the employee might obtain from any legislative scheme providing for superannuation benefits (currently the federal Superannuation Guarantee levy) or an award based superannuation scheme.

4.11.8 *Employee leaving during notice*

An employee whose employment is terminated for reasons set out in clause 4.11.1(a) may terminate such employment during the period of notice, and, if so, shall be entitled to the same benefits and payments under this clause had such employee remained with the employer until the expiry of such notice:

Provided that in such circumstances the employee shall not be entitled to payment in lieu of notice.

4.11.9 *Alternative employment*

An employer, in a particular case, may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended if the employer obtains acceptable alternative employment for an employee.

4.11.10 *Employees with less than one year's service*

Clause 4.11 shall not apply to employees with less than one year's continuous service and the general obligation on employers should be no more than to give relevant employees an indication of the impending redundancy at the first reasonable opportunity, and to take such steps as may be reasonable to facilitate the obtaining by the employees of suitable alternative employment.

4.11.11 *Employees exempted*

Clause 4.11 shall not apply:

- (a) where employment is terminated as a consequence of misconduct on the part of the employee; or

- (b) to employees engaged for a specific period or task(s); or
- (c) to casual employees.

4.11.12 *Employers exempted*

- (a) Subject to an order of the Commission, in a particular redundancy case, clause 4.11 shall not apply to an employer including a company or companies that employ employees working a total of fewer than 550 hours on average per week, excluding overtime, Monday to Sunday. The 550 hours shall be averaged over the previous 12 months.
- (b) A ‘company’ shall be defined as:
 - (i) a company and the entities it controls; or
 - (ii) a company and its related company or related companies; or
 - (iii) a company where the company or companies has a common Director or common Directors or a common shareholder or common shareholders with another company or companies.

4.11.13 *Exemption where transmission of business*

- (a) The provisions of clause 4.11.6 are not applicable where a business is before or after the date of the insertion of this clause into the Award, transmitted from an employer (transmitter) to another employer (transmittee), in any of the following circumstances:
 - (i) where the employee accepts employment with the transmittee which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter, and any prior transmitter, to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee; or
 - (ii) where the employee rejects an offer of employment with the transmittee:
 - (A) in which the terms and conditions are substantially similar and no less favourable, considered on an overall basis, than the terms and conditions applicable to the employee at the time of ceasing employment with the transmitter; and
 - (B) which recognises the period of continuous service which the employee had with the transmitter and any prior transmitter to be continuous service of the employee with the transmittee.
- (b) The Commission may amend clause 4.11.13(a)(ii) if it is satisfied that it would operate unfairly in a particular case, or in the instance of contrived arrangements.

4.11.14 *Incapacity to pay*

An employer in a particular redundancy case may make application to the Commission to have the general severance pay prescription amended on the basis of the employer’s incapacity to pay.”

Dated 28 May 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Acting Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
Amendment – TCR Provisions
Released: 13 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125 – application for amendment

**The Australian Workers’ Union of Employees, Queensland AND Australian Industry Group,
Industrial Organisation of Employers (Queensland) and Others (No. B1590 of 2003)**

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION, OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE GENERAL AWARD – STATE 2003

COMMISSIONER BECHLY

9 September 2004

AMENDMENT
(Correction of error)

WHEREAS an error occurred in the Amendment of the abovementioned Award as published in the *Queensland Government Industrial Gazette* of 3 September 2004, Vol. 177, No. 1, pages 64-68, this Commission orders that the following correction be made to be effective as from 1 December 2003:

By inserting a new clause 4.10.15 as follows:

“4.10.15 *Queensland Government Departments and Agencies*

The provisions of clause 4.10 will not apply to employees of Queensland Government Departments and Agencies to the extent that the provisions of the redundancy arrangements are contained in a Directive issued by the Public Service Commissioner or the Minister for Industrial Relations pursuant to s. 34 of the *Public Service Act 1996*, where the Directive provides for entitlements that are superior to clause 4.10.”

Dated 9 September 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 December 2003
New Award – TCR Provisions C.O.E
Released: 10 September 2004

QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999 – s. 125– making, amending and repealing awards

**The Australian Workers’ Union of Employees, Queensland AND the Australian Veterinary Association
(No. B1617 of 2002)**

VETERINARY PRACTICE EMPLOYEES’ AWARD – STATE

COMMISSIONER EDWARDS

8 September 2004

REPEAL AND NEW AWARD (Correction of Error)

WHEREAS an error occurred in the Award as published in the *Queensland Government Industrial Gazette* of 13 December 2002, Vol. 171, No. 15, pages 863–882, the following correction is made to be effective as from 1 January 2003:

By deleting from clause 5.5.5 the amount of “\$1.44” and inserting the amount of \$1.53” in lieu thereof.

Dated 8 September 2004.

By the Commission,
[L.S.] G.D. SAVILL,
Industrial Registrar.

Operative Date: 1 January 2003
Repeal and New Award – C.O.E.
Released: 10 September 2004

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QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1999

PRIVATE HOSPITAL NURSES’ AWARD – STATE 2003

(Gazette 5 September 2003)

(AR145 of 2002)

DEPUTY PRESIDENT SWAN
COMMISSIONERS EDWARDS AND BECHLY

8 September 2004

AWARD REVIEW
(Correction of Error)

WHEREAS an error occurred in the Award as published in the *Queensland Government Industrial Gazette* of 5 September 2003, Vol. 174, No 1, pages 52-90, the following correction is made to be effective as from 4 August 2003.

By deleting from clause 5.3.2 under the heading “Registered Nurse Level 5” the expression “Schedule B” and inserting the expression “Schedule A” in lieu thereof.

Dated 8 September 2004.

G.D. SAVILL,
Industrial Registrar.