QUEENSLAND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

CITATION:	*In the termination of the Charters Towers Regional Council Union Collective Certified Agreement 2023* [2026] QIRC 343
PARTIES:	**Charters Towers Regional Council** AND **The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland** **Queensland Services, Industrial Union of Employees** **Automotive, Metals, Engineering, Printing and Kindred Industries Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland** **Transport Workers' Union, Union of Employees (Queensland Branch)** **Construction, Forestry, Mining & Energy, Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland** **Plumbers & Gasfitters Employees' Union Queensland, Union of Employees**
CASE NO.:	CB/2026/89
PROCEEDING:	Application for termination of an agreement
DELIVERED ON:	27 October 2026
HEARING DATE:	27 October 2026
MEMBER:	Merrell DP
HEARD AT:	Brisbane
ORDER:	**The *Charters Towers Regional Council Union Collective Certified Agreement 2023* is terminated.**
CATCHWORDS:	INDUSTRIAL LAW – QUEENSLAND – AGREEMENTS – application for termination of agreement after nominal expiry date –

	requirements for termination – agreement terminated
LEGISLATION:	*Industrial Relations Act 2016*, s 189 and s 228
APPEARANCES:	Paul O'Regan for the Charters Towers Regional Council
	Angela Farmer from the Local Government Association of Queensland for the Charters Towers Regional Council
	Cheri Taylor for The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland
	Dominic Skelton for the Queensland Services, Industrial Union of Employees

Reasons for Decision

[1] On 29 September 2026, the Charters Towers Regional Council ('the Applicant') applied, pursuant to s 228(1) of the *Industrial Relations Act 2016* ('the Act'), for approval to terminate the *Charters Towers Regional Council Union Collective Certified Agreement 2023* ('the certified agreement').

[2] The certified agreement has a nominal expiry date of 30 June 2026.

[3] Section 228(3) of the Act provides:

> (3) The commission must approve the termination if, and must refuse to approve the termination unless, satisfied subsection (2) has been complied with and-
>
> (a) for an agreement or determination that provides that it may be terminated if particular conditions are met-the conditions have been met; or
>
> (b) for an agreement or determination that does not provide for the way it may be terminated-
>
> (i) the other parties to the agreement or determination agree to it being terminated; and
>
> (ii) termination of the agreement or determination is not contrary to the public interest.

[4] I have had regard to:

- the submissions made by the parties who appeared today; and
- the affidavit of Ms Michelle Clarke, Chief Executive Officer of the Applicant.

[5] The certified agreement does not provide that particular conditions need to be met before it may be terminated.

[6] I am satisfied that the Applicant has given the requisite notice of its intention to apply to terminate the certified agreement.

[7] On 29 September 2026, the Applicant made an application, pursuant to s 189 of the Act, to certify the *Charters Towers Regional Council Union Collective Certified Agreement 2026.*

[8] The Applicant and the following employee organisations have agreed to the terms of the *Charters Towers Regional Council Union Collective Certified Agreement 2026* which will replace the certified agreement:

- The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland;
- Queensland Services, Industrial Union of Employees;
- Automotive, Metals, Engineering, Printing and Kindred Industries Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland;
- Transport Workers' Union, Union of Employees (Queensland Branch);
- Construction, Forestry, Mining & Energy, Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland; and,
- Plumbers & Gasfitters Employees' Union Queensland, Union of Employees.

[9] I am satisfied that:

- all parties to the certified agreement agree to it being terminated; and
- the termination of the certified agreement is not contrary to the public interest.

[10] Section 228(4) of the Act provides that termination takes effect when the Commission's approval takes effect.

[11] I approve the termination of the *Charters Towers Regional Council Union Collective Certified Agreement 2023* with effect from 27 October 2026.

[12] I make the following order:

> **The *Charters Towers Regional Council Union Collective Certified Agreement 2023* is terminated.**