

### NTPS FIRE-FIGHTERS' BULLETIN 7

#### NO PAYMENT FOR UNION MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN PROPOSED PARTIAL WORK BAN – QUESTION 3 (HDA)

##### Background

On 30 January 2014 I received notification from United Voice (the Union) indicating that members would commence ongoing industrial action in the form of the following partial work ban from today, 5 February 2014:

*“Higher duties performed on a voluntary basis, not compulsory.”*

Given the nature of this partial work ban, participation in the ban is limited to those fire-fighters who are union members and who perform higher duties from time to time.

However, it is important that these employees are aware that participation in any industrial action is optional. That is, they do not have to participate in the ban if they don't wish to regardless of how they voted in the protected action ballot.

##### Notice of no payment

As you are aware fire-fighters are directed to perform higher duties, from time to time, to meet operational requirements.

The notice attached ([attachment 1](#)) confirms that if you participate in the partial work ban (ie: if you are directed to perform higher duties and you refuse to do so), I will not accept the performance of any work and you will not be entitled to any payment (including usual salary) for the day or night shift on which you refused to perform higher duties. That is, you will not be required to attend or remain at work for any shift on which you refuse to perform higher duties as directed.

All fire-fighters who are directed to perform higher duties and refuse as part of the notified industrial action will be required to sign the form provided by NTFRS confirming they participated in the industrial action.

In accordance with the notice, the no payment as a result of participating in this industrial action will commence from tomorrow, 6 February 2014.

Any queries arising from the above can be directed to this office via the Enterprise Bargaining Feedback form located on the OCPE website:

<http://www.enterpriseagreements.nt.gov.au/feedback/>



KEN SIMPSON  
Commissioner for Public Employment  
5 February 2014