

NTPS GENERAL BULLETIN 19/2013

This bulletin only applies to those employees covered by the NTPS 2010 – 2013 Enterprise Agreement

VOTE on New NTPS 2013-2017 Enterprise Agreement

As reported in [Bulletin 18/2013](#) the bargaining representatives (unions) had until lunch time today to formally accept my [new offer](#) for a new enterprise agreement. After having made significant concessions since bargaining commenced, the unions have advised they have rejected my offer.

As I believe the new offer is a fair and reasonable one in all the circumstances, and that it is unfair that employees are missing out on a deserved pay rise, I will be putting the agreement to a formal ballot to let employees have their say.

If the ballot results in a yes vote (a majority of employees who vote, approve the proposed agreement), the agreement will be lodged with the Fair Work Commission for formal approval. If approved, pay rises will apply from 29 August 2013.

If the ballot does not result in a yes vote then negotiations will resume, which will delay the commencement date of a pay rise.

Ballot Process

On Monday 2 September 2013, employees covered by the Agreement will be sent further information regarding the proposed NTPS 2013-2017 Enterprise Agreement, including a link to a copy of the proposed agreement and an explanatory document highlighting the changes compared with your current agreement. Hard copies of these documents will also be available throughout workplaces where people do not have access to email.

The ballot process will be conducted by the Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC), which will involve a mail-out to your nominated address. The ballot material will include a ballot paper, ballot envelope and return post-paid envelope.

Ballots will be posted based on the address details contained in myHR as at 23 August 2013. If your details have changed since this date you should contact Peter Burgess at the NT Electoral Commission on 8999 7622 or peter.burgess@nt.gov.au by close of business on 5 September 2013 with your updated details.

The timetable for the ballot is:

Monday 2 September	Distribution of proposed agreement and explanatory material.
Thursday 12 September	Ballot papers ready for mail-out by Australia Post.
Friday 13 September	Ballot OPENS
Friday 4 October	Ballot CLOSSES 10am (includes mail received before 10am). Ballot papers to be counted and results declared.

Ballot counts will be conducted simultaneously at NTEC Offices in Darwin, Level 3 TCG Centre 80 Mitchell Street Darwin; and Alice Springs, MyVote Central Suite 3, Yepperenye Centre Gregory Terrace Alice Springs. Employees may also lodge their completed ballot at these offices.

All employees covered by the Agreement during the ballot period are eligible to vote. Any employee who does not receive a ballot paper by 20 September 2013 should contact Peter Burgess at the NT Electoral Commission on 8999 7622 or peter.burgess@nt.gov.au.

Employees are encouraged to have their say by participating in the voting process. Voting 'YES' will result in the new agreement being implemented and employees receiving back pay to 29 August 2013.

Feedback or Information on the New Agreement

If you would like further information on the offer, or wish to express a view or suggestion, you can contact the Employee Relations unit in my Office on 8999 4282, or provide your feedback to me directly at www.enterpriseagreements.nt.gov.au/general_feedback. All feedback will be treated confidentially.

MORE INFORMATION

To keep you informed the OCPE has a webpage dedicated to enterprise agreement negotiations under the [Enterprise Agreement Negotiation Updates page](#).

The website will be updated regularly with the latest information on negotiations, including bulletins, information sheets and other material.



KEN SIMPSON
Commissioner for Public Employment

30 August 2013