

# AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES



Circular: 108/22  
Ref: AZJ Bulk  
09/11/2022

## Aurizon Bulk EA Variation Proposal

Dear Members,

As you are aware, your Aurizon Bulk Enterprise Agreement is scheduled to expire in January 2023. The AFULE had commenced formulating our log of claims and had recruited our workplace bargaining team for the expected upcoming EA bargaining sessions.

In an unexpected turn of events, the company contacted your state representatives seeking an official variation of your current EA. **The variation sought from the business is a 12-month extension of the current EA, in return, there is an offer of a 5.25% wage and allowance increase to commence once approval of the variation is completed but, no later than 24 January 2023.**

For an official variation to a certified Enterprise Agreement the following must be undertaken:

- The company must provide details of the proposed variation to the workplace and fully explain the proposed variation a minimum of 7 days before commencement of an official ballot.
- Once the 7-day access period has completed, an official ballot of all employees covered by the agreement will be conducted by the Australian Election Company.

For the variation to be deemed successful, 50% plus 1 of all votes returned must vote yes.

Although a variation to an EA is rare within the QLD rail industry, it is quite common in other industries. Over the last week, the AFULE has investigated this proposal and explored any potential negative impacts that could be observed by our members. After completing this due diligence and through discussions with officials of the AMWU and the RTBU, we have landed on the position to support the 12-month variation/ extension and hand the decision over to the workers via the official ballot.

We will obviously continue to watch this process very carefully and provide information to members should issues arise or our official position alters.

Please contact your local AFULE representative or your state office on 3844 9163 or [traincrew@afule.org.au](mailto:traincrew@afule.org.au) if you would like further information.

In Solidarity,

Michael McKittrick  
State Secretary

**Traincrew representing Traincrew**