

Combined Rail Unions'

14/05/2021

Circular: 28/21

Ref: Phosphate WHS

Phosphate Hill WHS Dispute

Dear members,

Yesterday the AFULE and the RTBU formally requested the assistance of the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) to deal with the ongoing Workplace Health and Safety disputes arising out of the shunting process completed by Traincrew members at Phosphate Hill.

The combined rail unions have been pressing both Queensland Rail and Aurizon for a number of months now to cease the current shunting process at Phosphate Hill and revert to completing the activities at Cloncurry per the successful trial that was completed in 2020.

Due to a lack of engagement with the unions, primarily by Queensland Rail, we have been left with no option but to take more formal steps to ensure your safety whilst required to complete Phosphate Hill shunting activities.

On this issue, both the AFULE and the RTBU have been working in step to achieve the desired outcome for our members. Going forward, both unions will work collaboratively before the QIRC to resolve our disputes with Aurizon and Queensland Rail.

We expect to have a conciliation hearing in the coming weeks. We will ensure to keep members up to date as this process evolves.

In Solidary,

Authorised by:



Mick McKittrick
State Secretary
AFULE



Peter Allen
Secretary
RTBU - Qld Branch

