



September 2013 Staff at the Coal Face

Appin Staff to Vote on Enterprise Agreement

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In mid-2010 Appin Staff got together and collectively decided that they wanted a collective enterprise agreement to lock in existing minimum conditions, and to protect new starters, and staff being promoted or restructured, from being offered reduced conditions from the minimum standard conditions for Staff. Appin Staff felt this safety net protection was really important in an industry like coal which is ever changing.

Unfortunately, at first, BHP did not want to bargain for an Agreement with Staff. This forced Staff to take the legal route through Fair Work Australia, and the Federal Court in late 2011 and 2012.

After intensive negotiations throughout 2013 with the assistance of Fair Work Australia, Appin Staff with APESMA and BHP have reached agreement on the first ever enterprise agreement for Staff at Appin Mine .

This week Staff at Appin will be voting on the proposed Staff enterprise agreement which locks in conditions and achieves the key objectives Staff wanted in 2010. Now in 2013 with changing market conditions, as well as a potential change in industrial relations laws the agreement is more important than ever!

To get so far against all of the odds is a tribute to the collective determination of Appin Staff.

Catherine Bolger Appointed to AUSCOAL Super Board

Collieries Staff Director Catherine Bolger has been appointed as a Director to the AUSCOAL Super Board.

The role will see Catherine actively involved in decision-making to ensure the investment of members' money adheres to the highest regulatory standards, and always operates with the best interests of members in mind.

Vice President of the Collieries National Committee Lester Anderson said that Catherine would be a fine advocate for members' interests, given her detailed understanding of the issues that staff face in the coal mining industry, and her many years' experience and knowledge in corporate governance and superannuation.

"Catherine is certain to make a positive contribution to how AUSCOAL Super is run. Her rigour for detail and capacity to achieve strong results is something our members really value. I'm sure AUSCOAL Super fund members will soon value these attributes as we do."

AUSCOAL Super is a significant investor in the Australian and international investments market. The Board has developed guidelines and principles to ensure that investing is undertaken in accordance with best practice in the interests of members. For more information see www.auscoalsuper.com.au

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