



**Collieries'  
Staff and Officials  
Association**

# Staff at the Coalface

20 March 2015



## **VICTORY FOR WORKERS AS CENTENNIAL COAL PAYS FULL ENTITLEMENTS TO OLDER WORKERS**

After a very public campaign, Centennial Coal have confirmed today they will not be appealing the Federal Court Decision, and most importantly, they will back-pay all Staff who had their entitlements reduced because of their age.

“This is a huge victory not just for us but the whole industry; we are so appreciative for all the support we have received from other Staff, as well as the community. It was only by working together we were able to get justice” said Greg Davey, former Myuna employee.

Collectively, Staff are owed more than \$1.5 million in entitlements and some have been waiting for more

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### **Improving safety, salaries and work lives.**

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than a year. The confirmation from Centennial is a huge relief and means Staff who will be retrenched at Angus Place later this month won't have to worry about how they will support themselves and their families.

### **We must work together to protect our retrenchment pay**

“While this victory will have a huge impact on us and our families, we know that this is not the end of the fight, we know that Centennial, along with other mining companies, are now trying to reduce everyone's retrenchment entitlements”, said Stephen Jackson, Angus Place.

“Just like you, we are committed to the fight to protect retrenchment entitlements; we couldn't have won our fight without you and we will continue to support Staff across the industry to protect our Industry entitlements” said Greg Davey.

### **A WIN FOR WAMBO STAFF**

For over 12 months, our members at Peabody Wambo have been trying to get an enterprise agreement to underpin their Staff contracts, locking in vital conditions, such as redundancy pay.

Wambo Staff decided to push for an agreement, following the roll-out of new contracts at Wambo, which varied the standard Staff conditions there. After approaches by individuals to management failed, members decided to work together by getting their colleagues to join the union, electing delegates and together building support to start bargaining.

While securing an agreement is rarely an easy or quick process, Peabody initially had to be dragged to the bargaining table and then through the course of negotiations, they put a proposal which would see our members go backwards in their pay and conditions. A proposal that they knew our members could never agree to. Peabody then retreated from bargaining without even giving proper consideration to our proposals.

Earlier this month, the Full Bench of the Fair Work Commission made a ruling that supports what we have known all along, that Peabody has not been bargaining in Good Faith!

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Peabody now must return to the bargaining table to put a “genuine proposal” and provide other information crucial for finalising an agreement.

Throughout this lengthy process, despite a variety of tactics designed to make them lose support for bargaining, our members at Wambo have stayed strong and resolute in their wishes to work together to protect their conditions.



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