



**Collieries'
Staff and Officials
Association**

Staff at the Coalface

8 July 2016

The recent moves by BMA to spearhead slashing redundancy compelled ex BMA Staff member Syd Corvin to speak out. Syd recently wrote to the Mackay Mercury with his concerns. In case you missed it, here is the article below.

MACKAY MERCURY

"Working in the mining industry in recent years has become increasingly more stressful for both staff and families who are struggling with increased uncertainty with thousands of people being laid off in the past few years.

On top of that we've seen the rise of labour hire as the mining companies' preferred mode of employment, and the general casualisation of the workforce. With all that happening, it's tough not to wonder whose job is next on the chopping block.

So when I heard news on the grapevine that BMA is trying to strip workers of their redundancy entitlements it sickened me; this would add enormously to the already uncertain future of BMA staff and their families.

When I lost my job, one of the few consolations was that as a loyal worker who had contributed to BMA's success for over three decades, at least my redundancy would help see me through.

I am extremely worried for my colleagues at BMA who I left behind. They continue to contribute loyally to BMA yet staff, like myself, could in future lose 63 weeks redundancy under the plan which is now before Fair Work Australia being supported by BMA.

BMA didn't explain their redundancy plans to their staff, but the staff have to explain this situation to their families.

That is, the longer staff have worked for BMA the more they will lose."

Improving safety, salaries and work lives.

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