



**18 November 2011**

## **Ergon Energy Negotiation Update**

### **Ergon Energy Seek to Stall Negotiations**

Another day was spent negotiating your new enterprise agreement with Ergon Energy management on Thursday 17 November 2011. Whilst there were some productive discussions held, the combined Energy Industry Unions have major concerns about Ergon Energy's willingness to continue negotiating the terms of your replacement agreement.

At the conclusion of the day's negotiations, Ergon Energy advised that they had reached a position where no further negotiations could occur and that they would be tabling a revised offer on Friday 18 November 2011. This came as a surprise to the unions as we have continued to demonstrate a willingness to negotiate and reach agreement. This was further demonstrated throughout the day with a number of outstanding items being resolved and the combined unions tabling a number of revised clauses for consideration by Ergon Energy.

After some debate, Ergon Energy reluctantly conceded that they would meet with the Union bargaining representatives again next week. Unfortunately it is not clear to the combined Unions if Ergon Energy intend to actually bargain at those meetings considering the position they have now tabled.

Whilst Ergon Energy are yet to provide their revised "offer", the combined unions are concerned that the offer will not address the concerns of our members which are reflected in the outstanding claims. This appears to be merely an attempt by Ergon Energy to delay negotiations at this critical time.

To progress negotiations the combined unions are encouraging all members to participate in the protected industrial action ballot currently being conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission. Your support in voting in favour of taking protected industrial action is a demonstration to Ergon Energy that negotiations must continue and a substandard offer will not be accepted.

Upon receipt of the revised Ergon Energy offer, the combined unions will provide an overview to all members about how the "offer" stacks up against your claims.

If you have any questions regarding the ongoing negotiations, please speak to your local workplace Delegate, Maree Bock on 0458 284 937 or your ASU Organiser, Ashleigh Saunders on 07 4922 3071 or alternatively email: [members@qld.asu.net.au](mailto:members@qld.asu.net.au)