

TASMANIAN INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

Industrial Relations Act 1984
s23 application for award or award variation

National Union of Workers, Tasmanian Branch
(T4824 of 1994)

WHOLESALE TRADES AWARD

PRESIDENT F. D. WESTWOOD

04 FEBRUARY 1994

Wage rates - State Wage Case December 1993 - arbitrated safety net adjustment

REASONS FOR DECISION

This application sought an adjustment to all wage rates in Clause 8 of the award in accordance with the Arbitrated Safety Net Adjustment Principle introduced in the State Wage Case Decision of December 1993⁽¹⁾.

Mr Strickland for the National Union of Workers tendered a draft order to vary the clause and submitted that the award had been significantly restructured in recent years and that substantial progress was being made in developing an integrated wage structure to include clerical, driving, and wholesale seller of electrical goods classifications. The award, he submitted, was a minimum rates award and accordingly met the requirements of the Principle. The draft order provided for the base rate and existing supplementary payments where appropriate to be shown, and an additional column introduced the arbitrated safety net adjustment of \$8 per week. A provision for the proportion of the \$8.00 per week relevant to each junior rate was set out, and in all cases adult and junior wage provisions contained a proviso indicating the entitlement on behalf of employers to absorb the arbitrated safety net adjustment against any overaward payment. The date of hearing was proposed as the operative date.

Mr Griffin, for the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees Association and Mrs Dowd for the Australian Municipal, Administrative, Clerical and Services Union, indicated their support for the application and both indicated a degree of optimism that the negotiations for the integrated wage structure were reaching a satisfactory conclusion.

(1) T4692 of 1993

2.

For the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited, Mr Clues informed the Commission that in keeping with its policy of not opposing applications for the arbitrated safety net adjustment where minimum rates awards were concerned, there was no opposition to this claim. An operative date being the date of decision was sought.

I consider that the application is in accordance with Wage Fixing Principles handed down on 24 December 1993, and the draft order substantially conforms to the manner in which the Commission has decided to construct its awards. Accordingly the increases are approved, with effect from the beginning of the first full pay period commencing on or after today's date. The appropriate order is attached.



Appearances:

Mr D. Strickland for the National Union of Workers, Tasmanian Branch

Mr P. Griffin for the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees Association, Tasmanian Branch

Mrs H. Dowd for the Australian Municipal, Administrative, Clerical and Services Union

Mr S. Clues for the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Limited

Date and Place of Hearing:

1994
Hobart:
January 10