

COMMISSIONER: I'll take appearances in this matter, please.

**MR G. COURTNEY:** GRANT COURTNEY, appearing for the Australasian Meat Industries Employees Union.

5 COMMISSIONER: Good. Welcome, Mr Courtney. I think it's your first formal appearance before the commission and I wish you well in the future and I hope you have many more appearances and you too can become like Mr Gates and become war weary after a while, but still, you'll find it's good fun.

10 **MR T. CURTAIN:** TERRY CURTAIN, for the National Meat Association of Australia.

COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

**MR S. GATES:** If it pleases the commission, GATES S.J., from the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

15 COMMISSIONER: Thank you. Before we formally proceed, have we any matters we should discuss off the record?

MR GATES: It's probably just appropriate, sir, to ensure that your draft order is the same as our draft order.

COMMISSIONER: Right. We'll just go off the record.

#### **OFF RECORD**

20 **ON RECORD**

COMMISSIONER: Mr Courtney, I understand you want to seek leave to amend your application?

25 MR COURTNEY: Yes, sir. I wish to seek leave to amend the application and include the second MRA and also to vary the interest clause to reinsert the registered organisations.

COMMISSIONER: They're the ones that were accidentally left out when we restructured the award?

MR COURTNEY: Yes, sir, they are.

COMMISSIONER: Right. The application to amend - any objection?

30 MR GATES: No, there's no objection, commissioner.

COMMISSIONER: Right. No objections, leave is granted. This is an application to insert a couple of things and I understand, Mr Gates, you've been elected to bat?

MR GATES: Yes, thank you, commissioner. Perhaps, firstly, I may just put some alterations to the draft order which you have on the record.

5 COMMISSIONER: Right. Well, we'll mark the draft order that's been given to us, **EXHIBIT C.1**.

MR GATES: Exhibit C.1, commissioner should comprise the proposed variation of Clause 8 - Wage Rates and also the proposed variation to Clause 6 - Award Interest.

10 If I take you firstly to Clause 8 - Wage Rates, subclause (i) - Adult Wages. If you go down the page to Meat Industry Level 5, it previously had in the weekly wage rate, \$459.50. That should in fact be \$459.70.

15 Over the page to (iii) - Apprentices and Juniors. The rates of pay for the 1st through to the 4th year are incorrect and they ought be as follows: 1st year - \$219.70; 2nd year - \$285.60; 3rd year - \$316.40; 4th year - \$417.40. There are no other variations to the particular draft order which you have before you.

20 Commissioner, this is a dual application. The first part of it pertains to increasing the rates of pay under the Meat Retailing Industry Award to reflect the second minimum rates adjustment and secondly, to vary clause 6 to rectify a previous anomaly whereby some parties to the award were left out.

It is our submission that neither of those variations contravene the public interest nor the wage fixation principles.

25 In relation to the operative date for the second minimum rates adjustment, it's our position, which we understand is a consent position, ought be from the first full pay period on or after 20 March 1998, being today's date.

30 Whilst we say that the draft order before you is correct, we obviously have some discretion if there was subsequently to appear any errors and omissions.

If the commission pleases, I have nothing further.

COMMISSIONER: Good. Thank you. Mr Courtney, have you anything to say in support of this?

MR COURTNEY: No, nothing further, sir.

35 COMMISSIONER: You just agree with the submissions made by Mr Gates. Right. Any further submissions? No further submissions.

Well, that being the case, there's consent to this matter. I'll hand down a written decision in due course which will reflect the increases sought plus make the appropriate variation to the Award Interest clause and

the order will be operative from the first full pay period to commence on or after today.

This matter is now concluded.

**HEARING CONCLUDED**