

COMMISSIONER: I'll take appearances please.

MR J SWALLOW: SWALLOW J., AMIEU.

MR A CAMERON: If the commission pleases, ANDREW CAMERON, from the Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and I also
5 appear today on behalf of the National Meat Association of Australia. I'll hand up a document from that association authorising us to represent them today and apologising that they couldn't be here.

COMMISSIONER: Good, thank you. Right, now I take it that you've had some pre-hearing discussions and it's a fairly straight forward
10 matter today.

MR CAMERON: Yes.

COMMISSIONER: Who's leading this matter, Mr Cameron?

MR CAMERON: Thank you commissioner. As you're aware this award was reviewed in February this year and at that stage the wage
15 rates - the introduction of a minimum rates adjustment process was commenced. At the time the first two MRA's were provided, the second one taking place in September this year and the fourth and final adjustment being due first full pay period on or after 1 January 1998.

Mr Swallow and myself have prepared the draft orders in relation to
20 the wage rates and to the best of our knowledge they are correct, and an accurate reflection of the process.

The second part of the application refers to the insertion of the supported wage system clause into the award. It was an oversight at
25 the time of the introduction of the Meat Processing Industry Award that that clause wasn't contained within the new award, and we seek, at this stage, with the consent of both parties and fully endorsed by both parties, that such provision be inserted into the award.

COMMISSIONER: Good, thank you. Is that your understanding of the agreement, Mr Swallow?

30 MR SWALLOW: Yes, sir.

COMMISSIONER: Right. well I can indicate to you that the award will be varied in the manner sought and the operative date?

MR CAMERON: The operative date, commissioner, for the wage rates would be the first full pay period on or after 1 January 1998.

35 And the operative date for the insertion of the supported wage system would - could - be from today, commissioner, if that's appropriate.

COMMISSIONER: Do you know if there's anyone on the supported wage system in the industry at the moment?

MR SWALLOW: That's what I was going say, to be on the safe side, could you back-date that to 19 February?

MR CAMERON: Back-date it to February 1997, we'd consent to that back-dating.

5 COMMISSIONER: 19 February 1997.

MR CAMERON: I'm not aware of any employees currently employed under that basis, but just to be on the safe side as Mr Swallow suggests, it would ensure that there's been, that there's no problems that may arise.

10 COMMISSIONER: Good, right, thank you. Right, well I couldn't close this hearing without officially showing on the record that it's Mr Swallow's last occasion representing the AMIEU, and I would have to say to you Mr Swallow, I wish you all the best in the future. There's been years and years of experience in this industry, there's been
15 numerous cases, there's been numerous times you've appeared, not only in this commission but in the State Industrial Board system, and I certainly wish you well in the future, and thank you for your participation and support and cooperation over the years. It's been fantastic and I hope to see you back in another form, maybe a
20 freelancer, representing employees in the future. Anyway all the best for you and your wife and family.

MR CAMERON: And maybe representing employers, commissioner.

COMMISSIONER: Yes, I can see there could be, it could be a bit of a takeover bid here. Good on you. That closes this matter, thank you
25 very much.

HEARING CONCLUDED