

Sunday Trading Alert!



YOUR VOICE AT WORK

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Correspondence mailed to all Toowoomba members

The Queensland Industrial Relations Commission recently passed an application for Sunday Trading between 9.00am and 6.00pm in the City of Toowoomba Area from 16 May 2010. The QIRC also granted trading on extra public holidays. From 16 May 2010, non-exempt shops in Toowoomba will be permitted to trade from 8.30am to 5.30pm on all public holidays except 25 December, Good Friday, 25 April and Labour Day. This bulletin sets out your rights in relation to the new trading hours.

VOLUNTARY:

Sunday work is **VOLUNTARY** for all existing full-time, part-time and casual employees engaged as at the date of introduction of Sunday trading (16 May 2010).

The SDA sought assurances from all relevant company witnesses that if the application was granted then work performed on a Sunday by employees would be of a **VOLUNTARY** nature. Furthermore, witnesses committed that no adverse action would be taken against any employee who chooses not to volunteer during the new trading hours. The decision states the following:

8 Note 1: *In response to questions posed by SDA, all retailing businesses which would be affected by the granting of this application stated that work on a Sunday for employees would be on a voluntary basis.*

120 *The Full Bench has accepted that employees would only be engaged to work on a Sunday in a voluntary capacity.*

PENALTY RATES:

Your Enterprise Agreement or relevant Award will outline the applicable penalty rates for working on a Sunday.

KEEP A COPY:

It is vitally important that during this period, and if or when you are asked to volunteer to work on a Sunday, that you keep a copy of any documentation you are given or asked to sign. **Remember – don't sign anything unless you fully understand the content of what you are signing.** It would also be a good idea to keep a diary note of any conversations that take place and who spoke to you.

BE CAREFUL:

Members should be aware that if they choose to work one or more Sundays as part of their regular roster, they may forfeit the right for Sunday work to remain voluntary.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

If you are unsure of your rights or entitlements, or require assistance with any matters please speak to your Shop Steward or contact the SDA Office on 1800 657141.

CHRIS KETTER
Secretary

11/3/2010