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Sent: Thursday, 24 September 2020 3:41 PM

To: Chambers - Ross J <Chambers.Ross.j@fwc.gov.au>

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Subject: Fw: Ai Group and ACCI application to extend Schedule I-Award flexibility during the Covid-19 pandemic in the Clerks Private Sector Award 2020

Dear President Ross, i write regarding the application to the FWC by the employer associations to further extend Schedule i in the Clerks Private Sector Award to March 2021.

Firstly, the ASU opposes this application because we believe it is unnecessary. Furthermore, we note with concern that the employer application is not supported by any evidence. There is no witness evidence from employers or employees supporting the need for an extension. There is no employer survey supporting the application. There is a lack of official figures supporting the application etc.

In our Zoom meeting with the employer representatives on the 23 September Sophie Ismail of the ACTU and i asked the employers what evidence they would provide to justify a further extension of Schedule i. The answer was basically that no evidence was going to be provided to support the application and that has come to pass.

We say that this Schedule in the Award, which brings some disadvantage to our members, has already been in place for 6 months and this application contemplates another 6 months. This is a substantial extension to the Schedule, yet there is no evidence presented to the Commission to justify it. The ASU registers with the Commission our formal disappointment with this application and its lack of evidence.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Rizzo

ASU National Industrial Officer, Melbourne Office.