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22 November 2016

Justice IJK Ross, President
Fair Work Commission
11 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

By email: chambers.ross.j@fwc.gov.au

Dear Justice Ross,

Re: Group 2 Awards – revised exposure drafts – request for extension of time

We refer to the above matter and a decision ([2016] FWCFB 7254) issued by the Fair Work Commission (**Commission**) on 10 October 2016 in respect of all awards allocated to group 2 of the award stage of the 4 yearly review of modern awards (**Review**). At paragraph [226] of that decision, interested parties were directed to provide feedback in relation to the revised exposure drafts that have since been published by the Commission, by 18 November 2016.

The Australian Industry Group (**Ai Group**) has a significant interest in numerous group 2 awards. We write to respectfully request that we be granted an extension of time to provide feedback pursuant to the aforementioned direction by close of business on 9 December 2016.

Our request is made on the basis that the various other Review proceedings that are concurrently being conducted are placing a serious strain on our resources. This includes, in particular, the ACTU's claim for a new family and domestic violence leave entitlement (AM2015/1), in relation to which Ai Group is required to file final written submissions on 28 November 2016 and appear before a Full Bench to make final oral submissions on 1 – 2 December 2016. Ai Group will also be appearing before the Commission for the purposes of eight other proceedings in relation to the Review between the date of drafting this correspondence and the deadline presently in force.

In making this application, we note that the grant of the extension sought would not cause any prejudice to other interested parties. This is particularly so given the absence of any requirement to file reply submissions or the scheduling of a hearing.

We thank the Commission for its consideration of our request.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Smith
Head of National Workplace Relations Policy