



16 July 2019

Associate to Vice-President Hatcher  
Fair Work Commission  
Level 10, Terrace Tower  
80 William Street  
EAST SYDNEY NSW 2011

**By email:** [chambers.hatcher.vp@fwc.gov.au](mailto:chambers.hatcher.vp@fwc.gov.au)

Dear Associate

### **AM 2016/3 – Helicopter Aircrew Award – Decision of 8 July 2019**

Further to the Australian Federation of Air Pilots (AFAP) brief correspondence to the Commission dated 28 December 2018, we note the Decision in this matter made by the Full Bench on 8 July 2019.

In particular the AFAP notes that the ‘appropriate way forward’ detailed by the Full Bench in this matter is to initially identify what existing provisions of the *Air Pilots Award* might appropriately apply to helicopter aircrew, with a further hearing to receive submissions if no consensus can be reached.

The AFAP has concerns that the many similarities listed in the Decision regarding the conditions for aircrew and helicopter pilots are not accurate nor reflective of the significant differences existing between the two occupational groups. In addition the AFAP notes that the current review process has as yet taken little account of the circumstances and historical perspectives that has established and reviewed the *Air Pilots Award* and its antecedents on the basis of being an occupational based award. Consequently the AFAP is concerned that any proposed changes will have the potential to impact how the *Air Pilots Award* operates and has been understood to operate for some considerable time.

The AFAP will await further notification from the Vice-President regarding a future conference and wishes to confirm our desire to be heard at that time.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact Chris Aikens, Senior Industrial Officer, at [chris@afap.org.au](mailto:chris@afap.org.au) or on (03) 9928 5737 should you have any queries or wish to discuss these matters further.

Yours sincerely

Simon Lutton  
Executive Director