

CFMEU

CONSTRUCTION FORESTRY
MARITIME MINING & ENERGY UNION

JULY/AUGUST
2023

A REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP FROM

CHRISTY CAIN



VESTAS & ORSTED – UNION AGREEMENTS NEEDED NOW!

Members, it makes me sick when we see these massive multinational companies that come to AUSTRALIA and think that they won't have to deal with trade unions! First it was Vestas and now Orsted.

They are two of the biggest companies in the renewable sector worldwide.

We have reached out to both to try and have meaningful discussions, but as per normal, they seem to want to go down the anti-worker, anti-union road.

This new industry is just about to start in AUSTRALIA, and whether these companies like it or not, they are all going to have to display good solid UNION agreements. If not, they can go back to where they came from, and we will deal with companies that will want to deal with us!

Watch this space. Interesting times ahead!

“IF YOU DON'T FIGHT, YOU LOSE!”



ORGANISE!

ORGANISE!



CHRISTY CAIN, PADDY CRUMLIN AND ILWU DELEGATES



I SAY UNION, YOU SAY POWER!!



ILWU CONFERENCE DELEGATES IN CALIFORNIA

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN ILWU AND ILA CONGRESS

Brothers and Sisters, I was fortunate to be part of a CFMEU/ MUA delegation to the ILWU/ILA Global Conventions. These two Unions are some of the most powerful Dockers in the world.

As we are now heading into a new renewable industry, it was a very important Congress for our UNION to attend. We all face the same global companies, so it makes sense

that we go global too. Which means if there are issues in Australia with these mobs, then they're our issues all around the world with them. That means workers solidarity and power GLOBALLY! The Longshoremen in America, support us and we support them.

That's how the Global supply chain works.

"ONE IN, ALL IN!!"

WE HAVE A NEW NATIONAL RESEARCH & POLICY OFFICER – WELCOME EMMA!

To our mighty CFMMEU membership,

I am now onboard working for our union as the National Research & Policy Officer for the Renewables sector.

I am a proud MUA member and have spent the last 13 years working in the offshore oil and gas sector, often as the delegate advocating on behalf of our members. After finishing my degree in Law and IR, I came ashore working for the MUA on policy aimed at decommissioning disused offshore oil and gas infrastructure, often left by maggot multi nationals to rust in our oceans.

What I have learnt over the years is this: If we want to beat these multinational companies at their own game,

we must tackle our renewables campaign not just with industrial muscle, but with better politics and policy with teeth. All these elements working together are what makes a successful campaign, and I am looking forward to working as a team across both divisions to achieve this!

We have a lot of work to do to make the renewables industry something we can be proud of. One that delivers the best wages, conditions and also keeps our members safe.

I am extremely proud to be working on your behalf and look forward to meeting you all along the way.

In Unity,
Emma Cain

ORGANISE!

ORGANISE!



EMMA & SIMO AT THE MUA RALLY AGAINST ORSTED



TOM MCINTOSH, AARIN MOON MUA & EMMA CAIN
AT VIC SEC FORUM



MUA'S NATIONAL WATERFRONT SAFETY COMMITTEE



WORKERS AT LOBBS HOLE SNOWY HYDRO



SIMO & JOHNNY A SNOWY HYDRO TUNNEL BORING MACHINE



BOOM MEMBERS AT SNOWY HYDRO

THE SNOWY HYDRO 2.0



Brothers/Sisters, At the start of August, I spent a week at the Snowy Hydro 2.0 project at the base of Mount Kosciusko with CFMMEU Organiser Johnny Andrikopoulos, having site meetings with members discussing the importance of safety and sticking fat on the job. Safety is not just a buzzword or a box to tick, one of our Brothers from the MUA explained it the best.

“Every time we cut a corner, then the next bloke cuts a corner, and so forth. Sooner rather than later, there are no more corners to cut and then it’s a straight run to a fatality.”

On the first stage of the Snowy Hydro that was built between 1947 to 1974, ended in 121 workers losing their lives. 121 families forever ruined, could you imagine?

The members working tirelessly on the Snowy Hydro 2.0 are not just workers, they are the backbone of the biggest Hydroelectricity project in Australia. There is no compromise on the well-being of these members braving the elements to secure Australia’s clean energy targets. The Construction Division of our mighty Union stands as a powerful advocate for these workers, fighting for their rights, safety, and fair treatment with Organiser Johnny Andrikopoulos at the forefront supporting these workers 24/7.

The CFMMEU will always support and uphold the rights of these members and all members across Australia. They deserve to be treated with respect, dignity, and fairness. Their sacrifices are not to be taken lightly, spending enormous amounts of time away from home and family. It is our obligation to ensure their safety and well-being are never compromised in Australia’s pursuit of hitting a Net Zero target.

The Snowy Hydro 2.0 project symbolises a cleaner and more sustainable future for generations to come. But let us remember that this future cannot be achieved on the backs of broken workers or grieving families. As a Union, we will help our members build a legacy not only of clean energy but also of sticking fat, showing comradery, and not compromising their safety for anyone just to get the job done.

Our members are revolutionising the energy market and as more of these projects take place all over Australia, our amalgamated union is paving the way for the best wages and conditions across the Globe!

“EVERY BATTLE EVERY BLU! CFMMEU!”

In Unity
James Simpson (Simo)

ORGANISE! ORGANISE!



CRANE CREW ON SNOWY HYDRO PROUDLY REPRESENTING!



MEMBERS AT MARICA SURGE SHAFT (SNOWY HYDRO)



MEMBERS AT SNOWY HYDRO SEGMENT YARD

GALLERY



ADDRESSING MEMBERS PERTH CONSTRUCTION SITE



CHRISTY WITH WILLY ADAMS PRESIDENT ILWU



JOHN, ROB & ELIAS -
VIC CONSTRUCTION ADDRESSING DELEGATES



WOMEN PARTICIPATION WOMEN POWER - MELBOURNE



ORSTED RALLY MELBOURNE



MEETING INTERNATIONAL DOCKERS ILA MIAMI PORT USA

COST OF LIVING CRISIS

CFMMEU – HERE FOR THE BLU!
MUA – HERE TO STAY!

Members, after 13 cost of living increases put on workers, we are now starting to see the devastating effects.

Workers are now losing their dream homes, some who cannot afford the rent increases are now subjected to living out of their cars. We are well on our way to a full recession in this country. Mortgages, food, gas, electricity, water, rates, all have gone massively up! It is time we said no more and enough is enough!

This EBA will identify our main aim, which is to fight for a decent wage increase. If I'm any judge, I would say that's a main ticket item in the coming negotiations that are coming up in your EBA.

Members, your union will be fighting hard to WIN decent wages, decent conditions, safety on the job and a little bit

more superannuation for when you retire! The employers have plenty and now it's our turn.

**"LET'S DO IT TOGETHER –
AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANISE!"**

In Unity,

Christy Cain

CFMMEU - National Secretary

