



COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC
SECTOR UNION

SPSF GROUP NSW BRANCH
ABN 11 681 811 732

In Reply Please Quote TW:vv

29 March 2023

Mr Troy Ittensohn
Managing Director
Management and Training Corporation

Via email: troy.ittensohn@mtcbroadspectrum.com

Dear Mr Ittensohn

Re: PKA Enterprise Bargaining

I write in reference to the above, negotiations for which have been ongoing since April 2022. You would be aware that a majority of employees at Parklea Correctional Centre (**PKA**) recently rejected the latest offer put to vote by MTC.

The CPSU NSW contacted A/Governor, Brian Gurney, on Monday morning, and reaffirmed our commitment to the bargaining process. We also advised that the counter-offer put to MTC in between the first and second access periods would guarantee full union endorsement. This offer, to reiterate, is 3.75% per annum (inclusive of superannuation), in addition to a \$2,000 one-off sign-on bonus.

I understand that the A/Governor has relayed, or will relay, this to you. However, I thought it prudent to confirm the union's position with you, in writing, for your consideration and feedback.

It is our view that the political and legislative landscape has shifted since the parties last met for the purpose of bargaining. Not only is there a new government in power who ran an anti-privatisation campaign with whom MTC has no relationship, but the *Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022* (Cth) will result in the Fair Work Commission (**FWC**) having the power to issue intractable bargaining declarations. The monthly CPI indicator continues to rise, and real-time data indicates that average pay increases awarded under Enterprise Agreements nationally are well above 4%. This has been reflected in numerous bargaining orders of the FWC, whose decisions are aligning with increases closer to CPI than offers such as that tabled recently by MTC.

It is our view that employees at PKA will accept nothing less than the aforementioned counteroffer, as this dispute is as much about respect as it is about an increase to wages. MTC may very well be laboring under the misapprehension that this is simply about money. This would be a fundamental misread of the situation. Principled opposition is significantly more difficult to shift, and we believe that this shift will only occur once employees at PKA receive an offer that they

160 Clarence Street, Sydney NSW 2000 T 1300 772 879 W www.psa.asn.au
GPO Box 3365, Sydney NSW 2001 F (02) 9262 1623 E cpsu.nsw@psa.asn.au

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believe is worth their support. We are also of the view that making an offer that is acceptable to the membership will generate goodwill amongst employees, and to this end will stand to benefit both employees and MTC. Finally, ongoing disruption stands to benefit no one, particularly given that the contractual option to renew is an option exercisable at the behest of the new State Government, and not MTC.

Whilst we are confident that seeking the assistance of the FWC would only stand to benefit our members, we would welcome the opportunity to continue negotiations so as to resolve this long-standing industrial dispute. We welcome to the opportunity to continue negotiations in good faith, and indeed look forward to doing so.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Troy Wright', written in a cursive style.

TROY WRIGHT
BRANCH ASSISTANT SECRETARY

cc: brian.gurney@mtcbroadspectrum.com
brian.kirk@mtcbroadspectrum.com
mark.ward@mtcbroadspectrum.com
debbie.frazer@mtctrains.com.au