

Public Sector Industrial Relations

2nd Floor, Citibank Centre
199 Charlotte Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Telephone: (07) 322 52342
Facsimile: (07) 322 95943

CIRCULAR NO. 7/98

Date: 13 November 1998

GENERAL RULING – AFTERNOON AND NIGHT SHIFT ALLOWANCES

This circular gives notification of the new QIRC General Ruling for the flat shift allowance for Afternoon and Night Shifts prescribed in some State awards.

In a decision from the bench, a Full Bench of the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) indicated on 23 October 1998 that it would increase the afternoon and night shift allowance from \$9.13 per shift to \$9.45 per shift. According to the written decision dated 4 November 1998, the new rate is effective from 2 November 1998.

This allowance was last increased in 1997 (see decision (1997) 156 QGIG 569). This change will affect only those State awards that prescribe an allowance for afternoon and night shift as a flat monetary rate. This applies to only a limited number of State awards applying in the public sector.

Two views emerged during the QIRC hearing on the method of calculation to be used for the adjustment of this allowance. One proposal was the use of an equivalent increase to the Queensland Minimum Wage in the 1998 State Wage Case decision. The other proposed method was to use an equivalent percentage increase based on the C10 rate in the *Engineering Award – State* as a result of the 1998 State Wage Case.

While the Commission indicated that it did not rely on any particular formula for the adjustment of the allowance in this instance, the issue of the appropriate methodology for use in future adjustments will be addressed in future hearings.

Please ensure that when distributing this information to officers and employees in your Department or Sub-Departments that a contact officer from your department is included for further inquiries.

NOTE:

In late November 1998, Public Sector Industrial

Relations will be moving from the Citibank Centre in Charlotte Street to the new building at 75 William Street. Our telephone and facsimile numbers and postal address will remain the same.

GEOFF KENNEY
Director

*Inquiries about this Circular should be directed to **Rod Andersen** from Public Sector Industrial Relations on telephone (07) 323 40766 or fax (07) 3229 5943. General inquiries about public sector employee relations matters should be directed to telephone (07) 3225 2342.*

Written inquiries should be addressed to:

*The Director
Public Sector Industrial Relations
DETIR
GPO Box 69
BRISBANE QLD 4001*