



29 September 2011

Mr. John Benson AFSM
Acting Commissioner
Fire and Rescue NSW
PO Box A249
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1232

Dear Mr Benson,

Re: Staffing of the Logistic Support Vehicles (LSVs)

The Union writes in response to the Department's correspondence dated 14 September 2011 concerning the proposed 6 month trial of revised LSV staffing arrangements. Whilst your apology for the delay in replying is noted, recent events regarding alternate duties staff cannot be ignored, nor can the Department's attempt to unilaterally amend the proposed terms of that trial.

Considering both, the Union does not agree to the trial of alternative LSV staffing and therefore expects the Department to immediately revert to the agreed LSV staffing arrangements set out in correspondence to the Department dated 27 October 2010 whereby *"the LSVs would in future be primarily staffed by permanent firefighters and officers on alternative duties. It was also understood that in the event of insufficient alternative duties permanents, other "spare" permanent firefighters could be used to staff the LSV and failing that, that the LSV in question would effectively be grounded until:*

- a) *it could again be staffed by a permanent firefighter or officer on alternative duties; or*
- b) *it could again be staffed by a "spare" permanent firefighter;*
- c) *it was required immediately for urgent duties, in which case it could be staffed by a retained firefighter who would respond to the LSV station as he/she would respond to any other incident."*

To be clear, the agreed position as outlined above is to remain in place, and any alternative and therefore non-agreed practices are to cease immediately. This is a simple matter and your written confirmation of the Department's concurrence is required by 5pm tomorrow, Friday 30 September.

Yours sincerely,

Darin Sullivan
Acting State Secretary

Fire Brigade Employees' Union (FBEU)

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