



Retained members – North Coast floods and Cyclone Debbie

Retained members deployed to either the flooding emergency in the Northern Rivers district, or to Queensland, were done so pursuant to Clause 29 of the Award. This includes members who were:

- contacted in advance for the purposes of forming a Strike Team or attending the flood emergency, and/or
- told to expect to be away from home overnight and to bring a change of clothes etc, and/or
- marshalled in an area organised by FRNSW before deployment to the flood, and/or
- specifically told you were being deployed in accordance with Clause 29; and/or
- accommodated by FRNSW overnight.

Local retained members who were responded by pager continue to be paid under Clause 6 of the Retained Award, including payment for overtime.

Retained members working under Clause 29 are not entitled to overtime but instead receive guaranteed minimum payments for each 24 hour period, and are to be paid as follows:

First Day: Retained members are to be paid for the total time from departure from their residences until midnight that night.

Subsequent Days: For each subsequent full day (ie. 0000 Hrs to 2400 Hrs), retained members are to be paid the total hours they worked provided that they should ensure that they are paid a minimum of 16 hours per day. Retained members are also entitled to a minimum of 8 hours continuous down-time between each 16 hour work period. Any period of down time less than 8 hours is considered to be continuous work, in which case you should claim continuous payment through until the point where your 8 hours of continuous down-time commenced. For example, if you worked on your 2nd day from 0700 Hrs through until 2300 Hrs (16 hours) but then recommenced work at 0600 Hrs on the 3rd day (only a 7 hour break) and then worked through until 2200 Hrs (another 16 hours), then you are entitled to the full 39 hours' pay.

Final Day: On the final day (or the 2nd day, if only accommodated for one night), retained members are to be paid for the total time from 0000 hrs up until the time of their return to their residences.

Accommodation: Retained members working under Clause 29 are also entitled to be provided with suitable overnight accommodation, which is to be accommodation of at least 3 star/3 diamond standard. It appears that most retained members were not provided with suitable accommodation, and should therefore also claim and be paid the relevant accommodation allowance per night. For Queensland, the allowance is \$226.45, for Northern Rivers the allowance is \$248.45.

Meals: Permanent members on interstate deployment should have been provided with substantial meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout the period of deployment. For each substantial meal not provided a meal allowance (\$29.40) is to be paid.

For WHS purposes, members who perform work between the breakfast, lunch and dinner meals should also be provided with refreshments and meals as per Clause 10. Again, if this did not occur allowances are to be paid in lieu of meals.