

# CFMMEU

CONSTRUCTION FORESTRY  
MARITIME MINING & ENERGY UNION

MARCH  
2023

A REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP FROM

CHRISTY CAIN

CFMMEU CAMPAIGNS  
GO FULL STEAM AHEAD!



Brothers & Sisters, there were a number of CFMMEU campaigns that were moved at our National Conference last year. There's no mucking around with us and we've hit the ground running with them. The following are just a handful of the campaigns we are currently working on:

- CFMMEU Silicosis
- NSW State Election
- CFMMEU EBA's
- CFMMEU Renewables & Energy
- Same Job, Same Pay - ACTU
- Indigenous – Voice, Treaty, Truth
- MUA Strategic Fleet

OUR Union has and will be totally involved in all of these campaigns, and we intend to visit as many workplaces as possible, to discuss with the membership for the participation in the above.

The Renewables & Energy Campaign is so important for our Union and its membership, and was endorsed 100%. We need to be politically, industrially and socially involved in every aspect of this new industry. Seafarers, wharfies and all of our construction members will be involved in offshore/ onshore wind, solar and hydrogen, as it is the way of the future and secures our members working for decades to come. Campaign organising is what we do best, so get along to our meetings to hear the updated progress.

**ORGANISE!**

## SILICOSIS KILLS WORKERS

The Union has commenced its campaign with regards to banning silicosis. Silicosis is an aggressive and incurable lung disease which results from breathing in crystalline silica (sand) dust.

Sadly, a couple of weeks ago 60 Minutes ran a story on the extreme dangers of this product. The National Union has moved for it to be banned in its entirety, and if the government isn't prepared to step up and ban this, then the union has vowed to ban members from working with engineered stone by mid 2024. Incoming National Secretary of the Construction Division, Zac Smith is doing a massive amount of work in this space, and advised that engineered stone is the asbestos of the 2000's.

**STRONGER & UNITED TOGETHER,  
WE NEVER BACK DOWN!**





## NSW STATE ELECTION

The CFMMEU has run up some fantastic campaigns over the last couple of years in getting rid of the Liberal State & Federal Governments. We are now faced with helping NSW to get rid of the anti union, anti worker, Liberal State Government. This mobs intention is to bring back a "State ABCC" which is something we will always FIGHT to keep out!

***THE UNION'S POSITION IS TO PUT LIBERALS LAST AND THE TEALS WITH THEM!***

## CFMMEU EBA'S CAMPAIGN FULL ON

As most members would be aware, the Offshore Oil & Gas, and now the Construction Division's EBA's have expired or are due to expire.

**OFFSHORE** - Ballots have gone out and strike action has started on some of the major offshore company's. The Union is still attending meetings and informing the membership of where the negotiating is at. There will be a full update at the monthly stop work meetings around the country. Please make the effort to attend in person.

**CONSTRUCTION** - The Construction EBA's with the builders expires this year and the Union will be holding meetings at workplaces and building sites to get the membership's input on these Agreements.

## MUA SRATEGIC FLEET CAMPAIGN

One of the major asks of the Albanese Government was the formation of an Australian flagged and Australian manned fleet of vessels. MUA National Secretary, Paddy Crumlin is leading a committee and several meetings have taken place discussing this major claim.

## INDIGENOUS VOICE & SAME JOB, SAME PAY CAMPAIGNS - ACTU

I recently attended the ACTU Executive at the ACTU headquarters in Melbourne and on behalf of the trade union movement, the ACTU are running up the Indigenous Voice campaign and the Same Job, Same Pay campaign.

Our Union will be listening and assisting with these major campaigns. Let's all get behind these campaigns, and as we say:

**“WHEN WHERE STRONGER & UNITED TOGETHER, WE ALWAYS WIN!”**



DARREN GREENFIELD STATE SECRETARY NSW BRANCH WITH MEMBERS



NSW CONSTRUCTION BRANCH UNION PROUD!



RENEWABLES CAMPAIGN 2023-2026 FULLY ENDORSED BY CFMMEU NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022



# THE DEBATE ON NUCLEAR POWER

Brothers/Sisters, over the last 6 months at many meetings, I have been asked by some members why we don't push for nuclear power instead of renewable energy? Let me make it very clear, that the Maritime and Construction Divisions of the CFMMEU do NOT support nuclear power in any way, shape, or form! While some people view nuclear power as a viable and efficient energy source, the risks and costs associated with it, far outweigh the potential benefits.

The significant risk to human health and the environment from nuclear waste should make people think twice on that note alone. The highly dangerous task of removing the waste from the reactor to then transport it to a secure location for it to be stored for hundreds of years is a daunting process, not forgetting the mining that's involved, digging up the uranium to then send it to a refinery before it is used as fuel in the reactor. It's better off being left alone.

The Fukushima disaster in Japan serves as a haunting reminder of the catastrophic consequences of a nuclear meltdown. The radiation exposure from that incident has been so severe that the next generation have been born with genetic mutations and sadly, diagnoses of cancer in children as young as 6 months old.

Australia is a lucky country, we've been blessed to be an Island nation, whilst also having wide open spaces to build solar farms and offshore wind developments, that our members can build and maintain for decades to come, producing more jobs and security of employment than nuclear ever will.

To me, as a dedicated unionist, the members health, well-being and job security are at the forefront with every decision we make.

**"THIS DEBATE IN MY EYES IS A NO-BRAINER AND THE MEMBERSHIP WILL ALWAYS COME FIRST!"**

In Unity,

**James Simpson (Simo)**

National Organiser

# ORGANISE!

# ORGANISE!



MUA STOP WORK MEETING IN NEWCASTLE



OAKY NORTH PICKET LINE SUPPORTING THE MINERS



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DELEGATION

# GALLERY



ADDRESSING MUA MEMBERS MELBOURNE



ALWAYS GREAT CATCHING UP WITH THE MEMBERS!



ADDRESSING THE MEMBERS AT METRO TUNNEL MELB



VIC CONSTRUCTION RANK & FILE MEETING



METRO TUNNEL MELBOURNE



MUA MEETING MELBOURNE

## CIVIL CONSTRUCTION MEETING AHEAD

**BATTLES WE DON'T FIGHT, WE LEAVE FOR OUR CHILDREN!**

Members, we are now intending to do as many workplace site visits as possible, to see our members in the Civil & Construction area. This also lines up with our National Renewable Energy campaign.

As usual, we always encourage and welcome our members input. I intend on doing a formal presentation to these meetings wherever possible. It is critical to our campaign strategy that we bring all of our members with us.

Once again, we thank you all for your ongoing support.

**"DO NOTHING. NOTHING CHANGES!!  
UNION POWER!"**

**"THAT'S THE CFMMEU!"**

In Unity,

**Christy Cain**  
National Secretary CFMMEU