

IndustriALL support for striking workers at Exxon Mobil site in Sale, Victoria, Australia

RESOLUTION

Background

IndustriALL is aware of the 200 oil and gas workers currently striking for over 130 days in regional Victoria, Australia.

One of the largest oil and gas giants in the world, **Exxon Mobil/Esso** is allowing its contractor **UGL** to cut Victorian workers' wages and conditions by up to 30 percent and introduce harsh anti-family rosters.

UGL is using underhanded tactics and loopholes in the Australian industrial relations system to do it – including trying to force the 200 workers onto an agreement approved by just a handful of unrelated workers in Western Australia. These jobs have been offered back to long-serving workers on a 'take it or leave it' basis.

These workers maintain and operate the onshore and offshore rigs that allow Esso to make millions off Australian gas. Despite their huge wealth and soaring profits, Esso **paid zero tax** on the \$8.5 billion it made in Australia last year. Now they want to cut workers' wages.

Australia's broken IR laws

The companies are using some of the same tactics used by other employers like CUB. UGL's ugly plan is to cut workers' wages and conditions by shifting workers onto a subsidiary company, MTCT.

This MTCT agreement, signed by just five workers several years ago on the other side of the country – none of whom work at the site – would see Victorian workers face:

- 30 percent pay cuts.
- Allowances reduced.
- Annual leave reduced.
- Loadings significantly cut.
- A harsh anti-family shift roster

What are the workers doing?

The workers are refusing to accept 30 percent wage cuts and the anti-family roster. They are fighting for their jobs and the pay and conditions they won over generations.

Workers are holding a community protest outside the Longford gas plant in southeastern Victoria 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. They are campaigning to get their jobs back on fair pay and fair conditions.

Why is this important?

Regional Victoria is already reeling from huge job losses. Cutting these workers' wages will be devastating for the local economy.

Once again, multinational corporations are coming to Australia, exploiting our resources, not paying tax and slashing our wages.

Exxon Mobil and UGL are making a mockery of Australia's Fair Work Act, evading their responsibilities to workers and the community.

IndustriALL resolution

IndustriALL condemns the behaviour of Exxon Mobil/Esso and UGL in attempting to unilaterally reduce the wages and conditions of Australian oil and gas workers.

IndustriALL sends a message of solidarity to the 200 workers currently on strike at their community picket line.

IndustriALL encourages affiliates that have relationships with UGL or Exxon Mobil/Esso to express messages of solidarity to the workers and to put pressure on the company to change its anti-worker behaviour.

IndustriALL resolves to circulate the petition, campaign Facebook page and donation links via social media channels as per the attached request from the AWU, AMWU and ETU. IndustriALL encourages affiliates to do likewise.