

## Hyne Timber Workplace Health & Safety Update

Your Union, the CFMEU FFPD, has been responding to our Members' concerns and fighting hard for improved workplace health and safety (WH&S) for members at Hyne Timbers.

Our National Secretary, Michael O'Connor, recently wrote to the Hyne board outlining the Union's concerns over the range of serious breaches of WH&S legislation that have occurred on site, the failure by management to meet even basic consultative obligations with the Union and a poor track record of incidents and investigative processes.

- Workers at Dispatch were required to cross the busy entry road to swipe on and off at the gatehouse, exposing them to trucks and other traffic. Following a near miss, it took multiple complaints from the Union and the involvement of SafeWork NSW, as well as the letter to the board, before management solved the problem.
- Truck drivers making pick-ups and deliveries at Dispatch have been complaining about the lack of lighting which was making their work dangerous. It took three months, multiple complaints by the Union, the involvement of SafeWork NSW and the Union's letter to the board before the issue was fixed by management.
- Following an incident in the log yard where a worker narrowly avoided serious injury the company seriously impaired worker involvement in the subsequent investigation, refused to detail to the Union the results of the investigation or what control measures were utilized.
- The company has refused to provide details of the WH&S structure on site and conceded there was no WH&S representative from the log yard despite the company being responsible for safety in that area. The Union had to request SafeWork NSW to compel the company to provide these details and they have continued to deny this information to the Union.
- Your Union recently made the local community aware of the company's poor record in their processes around the toxic chemicals they use on site. Workers were exposed to these chemicals recently when the company's poor maintenance regime saw a pipe split during a thunder storm which released thousands of litres of contaminated water which had to be cleaned up by our Members. The companies' unsafe treatment of timber saw workers at Dispatch exposed to packs still wet and dripping with the chemicals used. This led to our Members reporting skin rashes, nausea and vomiting as well as resulting in an ongoing workers compensation claim.
- Workers at Dispatch have been fighting for a year to get a break room that is adequate under current WH&S legislation. Again management have been saying they will fix it but this has just been lip service and workers are being left to have their breaks in an area too small for purpose. SafeWork NSW agrees and has asked the company to remedy this situation but the company refuses to do so.
- The Union is in the process of facilitating Health and Safety Representative (HSR) elections at Hyne Timbers.

These are the issues that our Members have asked to be addressed on their behalf, and your Union will continue to fight to make your workplace a better one for all workers. Our strength comes from our members – the more members we have in a workplace, the greater our bargaining power – meaning members get a better deal. Have a chat to your workmates and make sure they're in the Union so we can be in an even stronger position to fight for a safer workplace at Hyne Timbers.