

KiwiRail Network Services Contracting Out: RMTU Takes Legal Action

The RMTU has filed proceedings in the Employment Relations Authority against KiwiRail alleging multiple breaches of the RMTU-KiwiRail Collective Agreement or MECA.

Specifically your union alleges that KiwiRail has persistently breached its obligations relating to the contracting out of work in relation to:

The Northern Rail Upgrade (NRU)

The Auckland Metro Network

The engagement of contractors to do line protection north of Napier

The above are just three examples of when KiwiRail management has, in the opinion of your union, breached the MECA in relation to this issue.

Your Network Industrial Council Representatives are in no doubt that this is the single most deeply and widely felt issue across our network services members in KiwiRail. We are constantly fielding calls in relation to actual and alleged breaches of the MECA over the contracting out of work.

Whilst we have made some progress working with senior management and KiwiRail's Learning and Development department on a training module for managers on their obligations regarding this issue the fact remains that there are still elements in the business that appear to be disregarding what KiwiRail has signed up to.

Your union will keep members informed as matters develop and we urge all members to remain vigilant regarding the use of contractors and to inform their RMTU delegate, industrial council representative and/or National Office should they believe contracting out is occurring without the proper consultation with the RMTU.

