



1 May 2020

The Associate to Justice Ross
President
Fair Work Commission
Level 4, 11 Exhibition Street
Melbourne Victoria 3001

By email: Chambers.Ross.j@fwc.gov.au

Dear President,

**Re: AM2020/12 – Section 157 Variation of Awards at the Initiative of the Commission
Electrical, Electronic and Communications Contracting Award 2010
Proposed Covid-19 Response Schedule**

I refer to the above and to the correspondence from Mr. Suresh Manickam of even date.

I note that Mr. Manickam's correspondence does not appear to include an actual proposal for varying the Contracting Award. Further, to the knowledge of the ETU, NECA has to date in no way been involved with the processes in connection with the construction awards.

The Electrical Trades Union is bemused by Mr. Manickam's correspondence. To date, the ETU has twice requested that NECA contact the National Office of the Union should it have proposed variations to the Electrical, Electronic and Communications Contracting Award. No such contact has been initiated.

In the circumstances I consider Mr. Manickam's correspondence to be premature. I have this afternoon written to Mr. Manickam, proposing that we meet next week to discuss any proposals from NECA. It may be that the parties are able to come to a joint position, or at least better clarify the points of difference.

I respectfully request that the Commission defer consideration of Mr. Manickam's correspondence until this meeting has taken place.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allen Hicks'.

Allen Hicks
National Secretary