

CROWN EMPLOYEES (STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE) REGION CONTROLLERS AWARD 2012

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Review of Award pursuant to Section 19 of the *Industrial Relations Act* 1996.

(No. IRC 702 of 2015)

Before Commissioner Stanton

17 November 2015

REVIEWED AWARD

Arrangement

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PART A

1. Title

1.1 This award will be known as the Crown Employees (State Emergency Service) Region Controllers Award 2012.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 "Act" means - the Government Sector Employment Act 2013.
- 2.2 "Award" means - this Crown Employees (State Emergency Service) Region Controllers Award 2012.
- 2.3 "SES" means - the State Emergency Service as described in the State Emergency Service Act 1989 No 164.
- 2.4 "SES Act" means - the State Emergency Service Act 1989 No. 164.
- 2.5 "Regulation" means the State Emergency Service Regulation 2001 as amended under the State Emergency Service Act 1989 No 164.

- 2.6 "Commissioner" means - the Commissioner of the State Emergency Service.
- 2.7 "Region Controller" means - an employee permanently or temporarily employed in the SES either as a full-time, or part-time employee, in any capacity under the provisions of Division 5 of the Government Sector Employment Act 2013, and includes an employee on probation.
- 2.8 "Association" means - the Public Service Association and Professional Officers' Association Amalgamated Union of New South Wales.
- 2.9 "Industrial Relations Secretary" means - the Secretary of the Treasury, who is the employer for industrial purposes under the provision of Part 4, Government Sector Employment Act 2013.
- 2.10 "Salary Rates" means - the ordinary time rate of pay for the Region Controller's grading excluding allowance for "After Hours Duty Officer" and all other allowances not regarded as salary.

3. General Conditions of Employment

- 3.1 Conditions of employment for all Region Controllers shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Reviewed Award 2009 except where varied by this Award and with the following Awards and Agreements as varied from time to time:
- Crown Employees (Transferred Employees Compensation) Award 2009
- Crown Employees (Transferred Officers/Excess Rent) Agreement No 2354 of 1981
- 3.2 The provisions of this award are to apply to part-time workers on a pro-rata basis.

4. Salaries

- 4.1 The Region Controllers will be remunerated in accordance with the Crown Employees (Public Sector - Salaries 2015) Award as varied or an award replacing it. Salaries are set out in Table 1 - Salary Schedule Part B Monetary Rates.
- 4.2 Appointment of Region Controllers shall be in accordance with the Government Sector Employment Regulation 2014.
- 4.3 A flexible and adaptable approach to working hours shall be adopted to meet peak demands, unit and volunteer demands, and the personal circumstances of the officer. Much of the work performed is during the evening or on weekends. The parties agree that the requirements will be no more than 40 days of weekend and public holiday work per annum and 80 occasions of evening work. The parties recognise that there could be variations to these requirements from time to time.
- 4.4 An allowance of 15% of the Region Controller's gross annual salary will be paid in lieu of non-operational overtime and in recognition of the pattern of work. No non-operational overtime is anticipated.

5. Working Hours and Flexible Leave Entitlement

- 5.1 Region Controllers will be able to accumulate flex time credits beyond their contract hours. Flex time entitlements will be the same as the current flexible working arrangements of the Agency, i.e. Region Controllers will be able to take up to 5 flex days per flex period and can carry over up to 21 hours credit per flex period. There will be no bandwidth or core-time. Contract hours of 35 hours per week will be worked on any day Monday to Sunday and will include travel time.
- 5.2 Region Controllers will receive credit hours of one fifth of their normal weekly hours for each public holiday day. When required to work on a public holiday, a Region Controller should credit the hours worked to flex time and take the equivalent time off at a later date.

- 5.3 Region Controllers will not be required to work more than 5 days in a row without at least 1 day off.
- 5.4 Region Controllers who are employed on a part time basis and are working on projects for State Headquarters will be paid additional hours from the project sponsors budget. The number of hours will be negotiated with the project sponsor on a case by case basis.

6. Operational Overtime

- 6.1 Access to overtime can only occur during operations when flex time has been suspended.
- 6.2 Region Controllers who are required to work operational overtime will be paid at the normal rate of pay including the 15% loading for the first seven hours, and overtime thereafter, excluding the 15% loading and meal breaks. When flex time is suspended rest days are deemed to be Saturdays and Sundays.
- 6.3 Region Controllers who are employed on a part time basis and are required to work during operations may work full time and be paid additional hours for the period of the operation.
- 6.4 If a Region Controller is required to perform duty as the after hours duty officer the following payments will be applicable:

Weekdays 2/9ths of a day's salary including loading.

Weekends 1/3 rd of a day's salary including loading.

6.4.1 Subject to paragraph 6.4.2, the SES may require a Region Controller to work reasonable overtime at overtime rates.

6.4.2 A Region Controller may refuse to work overtime in circumstances where the working of such overtime would result in the officer working hours which are unreasonable.

6.4.3 For the purposes of paragraph 6.4.2 what is unreasonable or otherwise will be determined having regard to:

6.4.3.1 any risk to Region Controller health and safety;

6.4.3.2 the Region Controller's personal circumstances including any family and carer responsibilities;

6.4.3.3 the needs of the workplace or enterprise;

6.4.3.4 the notice (if any) given by the SES of the overtime and by the Region Controller of his or her intention to refuse it; and

6.4.3.5 any other relevant matter.

7. Grievance and Complaint Procedures

Grievance and complaint procedures will be in accordance with SES Complaint Management Procedures.

8. Dispute Resolution Procedures

- 8.1 The aim of the Dispute Resolution Procedures is to ensure that, during the life of this Award, industrial disputes or grievances are prevented, or resolved as quickly as possible, at the level closest to the incident (with graduated steps for further attempts at resolution at higher levels within SES, if required).
- 8.2 When a dispute or grievance arises, or is considered likely to arise, the following steps shall be followed:

Stage 1: - The Region Controller(s) should notify the Manager Professional Standards of the substance of the grievance, dispute or difficulty, request a meeting and, if possible, clearly state their preferred outcome.

A confidential meeting should be held within two working days.

Where the grievance or dispute involves confidential or other sensitive material (including issues of harassment or discrimination under the Anti Discrimination Act 1977) that makes it impractical for the Region Controller to advise their immediate manager the notification may occur to the next appropriate level of management, including where required, to the Department Head or delegate.

Stage 2: - If the matter is not resolved at the second meeting, the Region Controller, or other appropriate officer, may refer the matter to the Commissioner.

A confidential meeting should be held within two working days.

If the matter is not resolved, all parties involved in the grievance will be provided with a written response explaining the actions to be taken or the reasons for the SES taking no further action.

Stage 3: - If the matter remains unresolved it may be referred to the New South Wales Industrial Relations Commission by the officer (s), the Associations, or the Commissioner.

- 8.3 At any stage of this process either party may request that the situation be referred to an independent mediator. During any stage of this process members of a registered trade union may request that an Association representative be present.
- 8.4 During the process of resolving a grievance, normal work is to continue except in the case of a dispute involving Work Health and Safety where the safety of staff is jeopardised. If practicable, normal work will proceed in a manner which avoids any risk to the health and safety of any officer, or member of the public.
- 8.5 The Region Controller(s), Association and the SES will be bound by any lawful recommendation, order or determination by the NSW Industrial Relations Commission in relation to the grievance, dispute or difficulty.

9. Anti-Discrimination

- 9.1 It is the intention of the parties bound by this award to seek to achieve the object in section 3(f) of the Industrial Relations Act 1996 to prevent and eliminate discrimination in the workplace. This includes discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, marital status, disability, homosexuality, transgender identity, age and responsibilities as a carer.
- 9.2 It follows that in fulfilling their obligations under the dispute resolution procedure prescribed by this award the parties have obligations to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the operation of the provisions of this award are not directly or indirectly discriminatory in their effects. It will be consistent with the fulfilment of these obligations for the parties to make application to vary any provision of the award which, by its terms or operation, has a direct or indirect discriminatory effect.
- 9.3 Under the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977, it is unlawful to victimise an employee because the employee has made or may make or has been involved in a complaint of unlawful discrimination or harassment.
- 9.4 Nothing in this clause is to be taken to affect:
 - any conduct or act which is specifically exempted from anti- discrimination legislation;
 - offering or providing junior rates of pay to persons under 21 years of age;
 - any act or practice of a body established to propagate religion which is exempted under section 56(d) of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977;

a party to this award from pursuing matters of unlawful discrimination in any State or federal jurisdiction.

This clause does not create legal rights or obligations in addition to those imposed upon the parties by the legislation referred to in this clause.

10. Area, Incidence and Duration

- 10.1 The award will apply to all Region Controllers employed in the State Emergency Service.
- 10.2 The changes made to the Award pursuant to the Award Review pursuant to section 19(6) of the Industrial Relations Act 1996 and Principle 26 of the Principles for Review of Awards made by the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW on 28 April 1999 (310 I.G. 359) take effect on and from 17 November 2015.
- 10.3 Changes made to this award subsequent to it first being published on 29 August 2008 (366 I.G. 569) have been incorporated into this award as part of the review.
- 10.4 The award remains in force until varied or rescinded, the period for which it was made having already expired.

PART B

MONETARY RATES

Table 1 - Salary Schedule

Salary of Full Time Region Controllers will be paid in accordance with the Crown Employees (Public Sector - Salaries 2015) Award as varied or an award replacing it.

Effective from the beginning of the first pay period to commence on or after 1 July 2015

Classification	Fpp 1.7.15 Per annum \$
Full Time Region Controllers	
1st year of service	100,330
2nd year of service	103,151
3rd year of service	107,362
Thereafter	110,560

J. D. STANTON, Commissioner

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