



A•S•U

Australian Services Union  
Queensland (Services and Northern Administrative Branch)

Queensland Services Union

**MEDIA RELEASE**



Q•S•U

Wednesday, 21 March 2012

## **QSU Concerned About Ergon Energy's Major Projects Group - Stable and Secure Workforce at Risk**

The Queensland Services Union (QSU) which represents workers at Ergon Energy has serious concerns about the formation of a Major Projects group which sole purpose will be outsourcing capital expenditure.

The QSU initially raised concerns about these proposed changes in October 2011 but has yet to receive any information from Ergon Energy about their proposal.

This is in complete contradiction to the commitments that Ergon Energy gave in the newly signed Enterprise Agreement (EA) that legally (as of tomorrow) compels Ergon Energy to consult with the QSU when a preliminary decision has been made for a proposed major change.

QSU Secretary Kath Nelson said that the introduction of a Major Project group is a significant change to the organisation that warrants genuine consultation.

"Our union has a number of concerns about the impact the proposed changes will have on our members and are concerned about Ergon Energy outsourcing our members' jobs. This is not an acceptable practice and is not one that will be supported by our union," said Ms Nelson.

"Job security was a major factor during our most recent negotiations with Ergon Energy, as they had a strong desire to increase the use of contractors, thus reducing the internal workforce."

"This was something that was campaigned against by our union and we are concerned Ergon Energy is trying to blindside employees about their real agenda with the introduction of a Major Projects group."

"An increase use of contractors may lead to a reduction of a stable and secure workforce, thus potentially diminishing the service delivery of the State's electricity network," Ms Nelson said.

The QSU will continue to seek further information from Ergon Energy in relation to their proposed Major Projects group.

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