

16 October 2015

Our reference
monroej.ruskinn.7389955.00001

By email: amod@fwc.gov.au

Your reference
AM2015/6

Modern Awards Team
Fair Work Commission
11 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Sir/Madam

AM2015/6 - 4 yearly review of modern awards - Education Group

We act for the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (**AAMRI**).

AAMRI is the peak body for independent medical research institutes (**MRIs**) in Australia.

We refer to the amended summary of proposed variations dated 18 September 2015 and the proposed variations dated 2 October 2015 filed by the National Tertiary Education Industry Union (**NTEU**).

Pursuant to Direction 3 of Commissioner Johns dated 10 September 2015, AAMRI responds to the NTEU's proposed variations as follows.

AAMRI opposes the proposed variation to both the *Higher Education Industry—General Staff—Award 2010* and the *Higher Education Industry—Academic Staff—Award 2010* (**Higher Education Industry Awards**) to cover general, technical and research staff in research institutes, including medical research institutes.

AAMRI has previously submitted, in response to a similar application by the NTEU to the Modern Award Review 2012, that its employees are appropriately covered by occupational awards including the *Professional Employees Award 2010*, and that it is inappropriate for MRIs to be covered by the Higher Education Industry Awards when they are distinct from higher education institutions. It maintains this position in response to the current proposed variation.

In response to the comments of Deputy President Smith that the *Professional Employees Award 2010* would be an "awkward fit", AAMRI together with APESMA applied today 16 October 2015 to vary that award to clarify coverage. That application will be heard as part of matter AM2014/281.

AAMRI seeks that the NTEU's proposed variation to cover medical research institutes be joined with that application.

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Yours faithfully



Nick Ruskin
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copy to: The Associate to Commissioner Johns
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