



Australian Government
Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal

STATEMENT

Defence Act 1903

s.58H(2)(a)—Determination of the salaries and relevant allowances to be paid to members

ARMY – HANDLER PETROLEUM, OPERATOR CATERING AND OPERATOR SUPPLY EMPLOYMENT CATEGORIES

(Matters No. 1, 2 and 3 of 2014)

THE HON. A. HARRISON, PRESIDENT

THE HON. A. BEVIS, MEMBER

CANBERRA, 19 MAY 2014

BRIGADIER W. ROLFE, AO (Ret'd), MEMBER

[1] This statement relates to submissions made by the Australian Defence Force (ADF) under s.58H of the *Defence Act 1903* in relation to the following matters:

- a) Matter 1 of 2014 - *Army Operator Catering Employment Category*,
- b) Matter 2 of 2014 - *Army Reserve Handler Petroleum Employment Category*, and
- c) Matter 3 of 2014 - *Royal Australian Army Ordnance Corps – Operator Supply Employment Category*.

[2] The matters were heard concurrently on Tuesday 4 March 2014 with Mr R. Kenzie AM QC appearing on behalf of the ADF and Mr J. O'Reilly appearing on behalf of the Commonwealth.

[3] In these matters the ADF sought to terminate two ADF employment categories, Operator Catering and Handler Petroleum, and to restructure and rename the Operator Supply (OP SUP), Operator Unit Supply (OP UNIT SUP) and Operator Supply Chain (OP SUP CHAIN) categories. The Commonwealth supported the submission in its entirety.

[4] The ADF submitted that the services provided by Operator Catering would be replaced with a contracted provider or, in limited circumstances, performed by other employment categories.

[5] The ADF proposed that Operator Catering and Handler Petroleum personnel transition through category or Service transfer, commissioning, redundancy (to selected members), or separation by 30 June 2014.

[6] The ADF also sought to terminate the 'feeder' category OP SUP which provides a less specialised capability than OP UNIT SUP and OP SUP CHAIN. At present, upon promotion and specialisation, OP SUP personnel move to the latter categories. The ADF now seek to incorporate OP SUP directly into OP UNIT and OP SUP CHAIN while creating lower pay grades to allow transition and ab-initio entry into those categories. Simultaneously the ADF seeks to change the name of the OP UNIT SUP and OP SUP CHAIN categories to 'Quartermaster Specialist' and 'Supply Chain Specialist' respectively.

[7] The Tribunal accepts the submissions of the ADF noting they relate to matters that are administrative in nature and seek to give effect to structural transition. Non-reduction provisions are to apply under s.58B of the Act for affected personnel until 30 June 2019.

[8] Determination 5 of 2014 giving effect to this decision will be made.