

Noopur Madan
Returning Officer
Australian Electoral Commission

10 September 2019

Via email: Noopur.Madan@aec.gov.au

Dear Noopur,

Thank you for your letter dated 19 August 2019 regarding the Declaration of the Communications, Electrical, Electronic, Energy, Information, Postal, Plumbing and Allied Services Union of Australia, NSW Divisional Branch (CEPU NSW Branch) ballot and your Post Election Report.

With regards to the Post Election Report and your comments on rules which are difficult or apply or interpret you have identified two rules for consideration.

We note that in the 2015 AEC Post Election Report these same rules were not identified as difficult to apply or interpret.

However, the CEPU propose the following measures going forward:

Rule 22.7.11 – Subject to our internal processes and ratification by the CEPU Divisional Executive and the Registered Organisations Commission, the CEPU will recommend that the rule be amended to:

“All envelopes containing ballot papers received by the Returning Officer **by the close of the ballot** ~~within seven days after the close of the ballot~~ shall be opened by him/her ~~in the presence of an official scrutineer~~ following the completion of the ballot count **and within seven days. An official scrutineer shall be entitled to scrutinise this process.**”

Rule 23.1 – Subject to our internal processes and ratification by the CEPU Divisional Executive and the Registered Organisations Commission, the CEPU will recommend that the rule be amended as follows:

“In the event of there being more candidates than there are positions to be filled, a ballot shall be conducted on the preferential system. In any case where two or more candidates are to be elected, the multiple system of preferential voting shall be used. The voter shall vote for all candidates in the order of his/her preference but no vote shall be informal if a less number is voted for, provided the voter votes for at least **the same** ~~one more than twice the~~ number of candidates to be elected in preferential order.”

We trust that these amendments will address the concerns of the AEC. If not, we are happy to continue consulting with the AEC.



Electrical Trades Union of Australia
New South Wales Branch

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Postal, Plumbing and Allied
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If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my Operations Officer, George Houssos, on 0418 655 682 or via email georgeh@etunsw.com.au .

Yours sincerely,



Justin Page
SECRETARY
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