

**Mining & Energy Union  
Victorian District Branch**

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25 March 2024

Ishtiaq Ahmed  
Returning Officer  
Australian Electoral Commission

Email: [IEBevents@aec.gov.au](mailto:IEBevents@aec.gov.au)

Dear Mr Ahmed,

E2023/174 – Mining and Energy Union – Victorian District Branch – Casual Vacancy Election

I refer to the post-election report issued by the Australian Electoral Commission in relation to the Mining and Energy Union – Victorian District Branch – Casual Vacancy Election (E2023/174). This correspondence constitutes the Union's response to the AEC following the report and is made in accordance with s.198 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*.

The post-election report raised a number of issues with the Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union, Mining and Energy Division, Victorian District Branch Rules – more specifically – with Victorian District Branch rules 14(G)(2) and 14(G)(3).

The Mining and Energy Union withdrew from the Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union (CFMMEU) and was registered as the Mining and Energy Union (MEU) on 1 December 2023. The rules referred to above ceased to exist on 1 December 2023 and all ballots of the MEU are now conducted under Rule 17 of the MEU rules. Further to this, on 29 February 2024 the Fair Work Commission issued an exemption decision allowing the MEU to conduct our own elections for all of our District branches, including the Victorian District, going forward, under Rule 17.

We will assess the concerns you have raised with our previous rules against the newly registered MEU rules to determine that there are no ongoing issues. Thank you for bringing these issues to our attention.

I would also like to bring to your attention that your correspondence still refers to me incorrectly as Mark Richardson.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Richards".

Mark Richards  
District Secretary