



Association of Electrical Contractors (Ireland)
Woodview Centre, Main Street, Celbridge, Co. Kildare
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www.aeci.ie aeci@indigo.ie

18th November 2008

Dear AECI Members and Supporters,

At the Labour Court hearing, yesterday 17th November 2008, your Association (AECI) held their position regarding the €1.05 per hour increase, **(unanimously rejected by you the Members)**, when asked by the Chairman. The resounding NO from the AECI was against the joint YES from our joint partners in the EINJIC, the ECA and the TEEU.

Other bodies, represented at the hearing, were lambasted, particularly from the TEEU but also by the Chairman for *"purporting to represent big numbers of Electrical Contractors and still cannot quantify this for the Court after all this time"*. The Labour Court will resume again on the 12th January 2009 and it is envisaged that at least 5 days will be required to hear all the witnesses.

The strategy of the AECI may not always have appeared to be *"taking the correct line"*, however, our case is clearly understood by the Court and the TEEU/ECA and with the experience and diplomacy of your Council the AECI are held in high regard by the TEEU and ECA with the result that our lines of communication are still amicably and professionally open. The TEEU, whether we like it or not, are a necessary body and we as a Professional Association need to be in a position to talk/negotiate with them and they have requested a meeting with us soon.

I have to state strongly that the splintering up of the representation within the Electrical Industry is like a Christmas Present for the TEEU and this a crying shame, particularly in the times we are in. Divide a Conquer was the war strategy and I cannot understand why a New Association trying to set up with the exact same AIMS and Intentions as those of the AECI cannot bury their differences for the sake and good of the Members of our Industry, instead of confusing the Members and flooding them with emails and promises. There is no doubt that the AECI have gone through a tough few months with little or no communication with the Members, however, THIS has been explained adnauseam at the various meetings around the country recently and without any further excuses the Association will be stronger than ever with Communication as the key word for the future.

In every Association/Club/Organization/Party or representative Body, difference of opinions and ideas are seen as a healthy sign and I would ask those genuinely passionate people who are attempting to undermine the AECI Council, to put their knowledge and experience back into the AECI by forming working groups to achieve specific tasks as required and achieve the AIMS which all our Members will benefit from and deserve.

A reminder, finally, that the EGM, which the Council agreed to call, will take place on Wednesday Evening 19th November 2008 at 7:30pm at the Moran's Hotel, Red Cow, Dublin. I am aware that this location will not suit all our Country Members, however, I would appreciate your great effort to attend and support your Association.

Best Regards
Chris Lundy
Executive Secretary AECI



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20th November 2008

Dear AECI Members,

Many thanks to you all for attending the recent EGM in Moran's Hotel on Wednesday the 19th November 2008 at 7:30pm, also a thank you to those who could not attend but were very positive in their support for the AECI Council.

The result was a resounding support of confidence for:

- A) the manner in which this Council handled the €1.05 increase per hour issue, and
- B) the manner in which the challenge to the REA (Registered Employment Agreement) was handled.

After the EGM concluded the president Jack Hegarty opened the meeting to other suggestions and questions from the floor.

With so many suggestions being put forward it was agreed that all members firstly read up on the REA and submit specific areas where changes should occur by e-mail. The Council will then not only have your correct e-mail + details but more importantly can formulate a cross section of clauses that require changing or deletion.

The Council took on board the criticism from the floor relating to poor communication between members and H.Q. We feel we now have resolved this, with the new office in Celbridge, Co. Kildare and the Administrator Lenka along with myself now in place.

It is the most important that we at H.Q. receive your details on e-mail including any changes of company name and on addresses if you don't have an e-mail address your faxed details will suffice.

Best Regards
Chris Lundy
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24th November 2008

Dear AECI Members,

Many thanks for your comments, e-mails to AECI H.Q. in relation to our issues raised at the recent EGM.

We continue to wait until more members respond regarding changes to the REA (Registered Employment Agreement) to allow us to put the AECI's case forward as requested by Members.

The AECI, ECA (Electrical Contractors Association) and TEEU (Technical Engineering & Electrical Union) delegates will be attending on NJIC (National Joint Industrial Council) meeting tomorrow, Tuesday the 25th November 2008 and any items of interest will be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

The NSAI (National Standard Association of Ireland) as you may know are running Emergency Lighting Courses (I.S. 3217: 2008). These courses consist of:

1. Certificate in Emergency Lighting for Designers and Commissioners - 5 day modular course. Delegates will complete an assessment at the end of this course. Upon successful completion an NSAI Registration number will be issued.
2. Compliance with I.S. 3217: 2008 -1 day course. This course is intended to give an overview of the requirements of I.S. 3217:2008 and what must be done to comply with these requirements.

If you require further information on these courses please contact H.Q.

We intend to run some courses in the near future on issues like Employment Law and Lay-Off and Short-Time issues, which are dominating the question coming to H.Q.

Also the New Government Contracts of Condition seminar that took place in Athlone recently was a great success and is been requested by some of our members to organize another seminar. Please indicate if this and any other topic is of interest to you and we will endeavour to organize such.

Best Regards
Chris Lundy
Executive Secretary AECI