

\$25,000 back-pay for Karratha worker

26 September 2011

A construction worker at Karratha in Western Australia's north-west has been back-paid a total of \$25,350 following intervention by the Fair Work Ombudsman.

The 35-year-old female lodged a complaint with the Fair Work Ombudsman alleging she was not being paid a remote area living allowance.

After an inspector contacted the company and explained its obligations, the employee was promptly reimbursed her outstanding entitlements without the need for further action against the employer.

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson says it's a fact that some businesses inadvertently breach workplace laws.

"When we find mistakes, we're here to help and give practical advice to employers on how to voluntarily fix them," he said.

"The business has now corrected the errors that led to the underpayments and put processes in place to ensure it will not happen again."

The Fair Work Ombudsman provides a single point of contact for people working or running a business in Australia to get accurate and timely information about their workplace rights and obligations.

Workers or employers seeking support should get in touch with the Fair Work Ombudsman via the website - www.fairwork.gov.au - or call the Fair Work Infoline on 13 13 94.

A free interpreter service is available on 13 14 50, and information on the website is translated into 27 different languages.

The website has a number of tools and resources, including PayCheck Plus and an Award Finder, to assist business-owners calculate the correct pay for their employees.

Free documentation is available Online for employers to use when hiring, managing and dismissing staff, including letters of engagement and probation, timesheet and pay slip templates, leave application forms, a self-audit check list and workplace complaint form.

An 'Industries' section on the website provides extra, specialised information for employers and employees in the retail, cleaning, clerical, hair and beauty, security, horticulture, fast food and hospitality industries.

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Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

Need language help?

Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94