



28 February 2023

Dear Daniel,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the proposed amendments to the Australian Postal Corporation (Performance Standards) Regulations 2019. We draw attention to the letter that we submitted in December 2023 (attached), as part of an earlier consultation process, and note that the proposed amendments fail to incorporate any of the feedback that we provided at that time.

As we noted in that letter, any review of Australia Post's operations must start from the premise that the organisation offers an essential public service, and that it must deliver reliable, affordable and accessible access to postal services to all Australians. It must prioritise the maintenance of quality service delivery and good, secure jobs across the sector over profitability as a primary concern.

The CEPU Tasmania remains willing to engage with Australia Post on holistic avenues to trial new delivery methods and prioritise resource deployment in line with demand for services where appropriate. Postal workers are best placed to offer localised solutions to improve service delivery.

As a Government Business Enterprise, Australia Post has been forced into a race to the bottom with private delivery services, who rely on subcontractor outsourcing and gig work, in order to maintain profitability. This has undermined the quality of jobs in the sector, and driven up vacancy rates, undermining community service delivery. We believe that any amendments to the operation of Australia Post must start from the question of whether GBEs can ever maintain high and equitable service delivery while remaining sustainably profitable. The current reforms do not do this. Instead of working with postal workers on innovative and targeted approaches to improve service delivery, they rely exclusively on substantial cuts to the services that Australia Post is required to deliver to communities and will further undermine working conditions exacerbating existing issues with workforce attraction and retention.

CEPU rejects the current amendments and notes that they represent a missed opportunity to undertake reforms that can deliver for workers, communities, and the national interest.

We invite the government to work closely with the union to develop a more sustainable, holistic set of reforms.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Anderson'.

Michael Anderson
State Secretary
CEPU Tasmanian Branch