



Fair Work
Commission

DECISION

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009
s.189—Arrangement for conduct of an election

National Electrical and Communications Association
(E2025/18)

BILL STEENSON

SYDNEY, 17 MARCH 2025

Arrangement for conduct of election.

[1] On 19 February and 10 March 2025 the National Electrical and Communications Association (**organisation**) lodged with the Fair Work Commission (**Commission**) prescribed information for an election to fill the following offices for a new term of office:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| National President | (1) |
| National Vice President | (1) |
| National Treasurer | (1) |

New South Wales Branch

| | |
|---|-----|
| Branch President | (1) |
| Branch Vice President | (1) |
| Branch Treasurer | (1) |
| Branch Secretary | (1) |
| Branch Councillors | (4) |
| National Councillors (from NSW Branch) | (2) |
| National Executive Member (from NSW Branch) | (1) |

Victoria Branch

| | |
|--|-----|
| Branch President | (1) |
| Branch Vice President | (1) |
| Branch Treasurer | (1) |
| Branch Councillors | (4) |
| National Councillors (from Victoria Branch) | (2) |
| National Executive Member (from Victoria Branch) | (1) |

South Australia/Northern Territory Branch

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Branch President | (1) |
| Branch Vice President | (1) |
| Branch Treasurer | (1) |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Branch Secretary | (1) |
| Branch Councillors | (4) |
| National Councillors (from SA/NT Branch) | (2) |
| National Executive Member (from SA/NT Branch) | (1) |

Western Australia Branch

| | |
|--|-----|
| Branch President | (1) |
| Branch Vice President | (1) |
| Branch Treasurer | (1) |
| Branch Secretary | (1) |
| Branch Councillors | (3) |
| National Councillors (from WA Branch) | (2) |
| National Executive Member (from WA Branch) | (1) |

Australian Capital Territory Branch

| | |
|---|-----|
| Branch President | (1) |
| Branch Vice President | (1) |
| Branch Treasurer | (1) |
| Branch Secretary | (1) |
| Branch Councillors (for a two-year term) | (4) |
| Branch Councillors (for a one-year term) | (4) |
| National Councillors (from ACT Branch) | (2) |
| National Executive Member (from ACT Branch) | (1) |

Queensland Branch

| | |
|---|-----|
| Branch President | (1) |
| Branch Vice President | (1) |
| Branch Treasurer | (1) |
| Branch Councillors | (4) |
| National Councillors (from QLD Branch) | (2) |
| National Executive Member (from QLD Branch) | (1) |

Tasmania Branch

| | |
|---|-----|
| Branch President | (1) |
| Branch Vice President | (1) |
| Branch Treasurer | (1) |
| Branch Secretary | (1) |
| Branch Councillors | (4) |
| National Councillors (from TAS Branch) | (2) |
| National Executive Member (from TAS Branch) | (1) |

[2] Rule 56.4 of the organisation's rules provides that a Branch may determine to have Branch Councillors hold office for terms of either one, two or three years. Where a Branch has resolved to vary its standing arrangements in this way and has determined that the term will be either two years or three years, elections are to be staggered such that each year a portion of the Branch Councillor offices will be subject to election for a new term. For example, where there is a two-year term, each year half of the Branch's Councillors shall retire and be subject to an election.¹

¹ R2022/148, subrule 56.4(b).

[3] The rules of the organisation also provide that each Branch Council will comprise no fewer than four (4) members and no more than ten (10) members plus the Branch Secretary, as determined by the Branch Council from time to time.²

[4] In the prescribed information lodged for this election (**E2025/18**), the organisation advised that, on 4 March 2025, the Australian Capital Territory (**ACT**) Branch Council resolved to increase the total number of its Branch Councillors from four (4) – comprising two Branch Councillors elected in each alternate year for a two-year term – to eight (8) – comprising four Branch Councillors elected in each alternate year for a two-year term.

[5] To give effect to the ACT Branch’s resolution to increase the total number of members of the Branch Council and to preserve the pattern of electing half of the Branch Council each year, all of the current ACT Branch Councillors will retire at this election (**E2025/18**) and to activate the initial division into two groups of four (4) Branch Councillors elected in alternate years, the four candidates for Branch Councillor who receive the highest number of votes in accordance with the Australian Electoral Commission (**AEC**) declaration of results in this election (**E2024/20**), shall hold office for a two year term, and the four candidates for Branch Councillors who receive the next four highest number of votes (i.e. those ranked fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth) shall hold office for a one year term – at which time an election for those four offices for a two-year term will occur.³

[6] In regard to the Tasmanian Branch Councillors to be elected at this election, it is noted that at the last scheduled election (**E2024/20**), the Tasmanian Branch changed its Councillor numbers, which meant four Councillors were elected for a two-year term, and four were elected for a one-year term.⁴ Those offices that were filled for a one-year term are the subject of this election and the officers that are thereby elected as a result of it will hold office for the two years following that, i.e. a 2025 to 2027 term.

[7] It should also be noted that the office of Branch Secretary does not apply to all Branches. The prescribed information lodged for this election (**E2025/18**) noted that the Victoria and Queensland Branches have both previously abolished the office of Branch Secretary, in accordance with rule 37.7(a).

[8] Further, the organisation has a practice of including the surnames of the current officers whose office is due for election, to provide clarity given the staggered term. In the prescribed information lodged for this election, there is an error in the list of names for the NSW Branch Councillors. The prescribed information states that the NSW Branch Councillor office recently vacated by Hicks, as a result of a resignation, is due for a scheduled election, however, it should state Kerfoot (elected in E2023/18), as this is the office due for scheduled election given the expiry of the two-year term. The organisation confirmed this via email on 11 March 2025. The organisation has now lodged separate prescribed information for a casual vacancy election (**E2025/44**) in respect of the Councillor office that is currently vacant due to the resignation of Hicks.

[9] A decision in election E2025/44, in respect of the casual vacancy, will be issued shortly. I request that the AEC endeavour to run that election and the election that is the subject of this decision (**E2025/18**) concurrently.

² R2022/148, rule 56.2.

³ Ibid, rule 56.5.

⁴ Ibid.

[10] I am satisfied that an election for the abovenamed offices is required to be held under the rules of the organisation and, under subsection 189(3) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*, I am making arrangements for the conduct of the election by the AEC.



DELEGATE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

Printed by authority of the Commonwealth Government Printer

PR755437

AMENDMENT to PI lodged 19 February 2025
E2025/18

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Regulation 138

Prescribed Information for elections by the National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA)

I, Peter Beveridge, President of the National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA), state that the amending information below is lodged under section 189 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* and that I am the person authorised to make the statement.

Further to the NECA PI lodged on 19 February I advise the following in respect of the **Australian Capital Territory Branch Councillors only**

Delete:

- Two (2) Branch Councillors (for **Waters, Burgess**) for a 2-year term – DVS

Replace:

- Eight (8) Branch Councillors four (4) for a 2-year term and four (4) for a 1-year term) – DVS

The amending PI occurs by reason of a recent ACT Branch Council resolution in the following terms:

"The ACT Branch Council meeting of 4 March 2025 hereby resolves THAT:

a. The number of branch councillors be increased from 4 to 8;

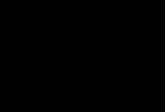
b. The increase of councillors shall take effect upon completion of the 2025 election of Branch Councillors;

c. in accordance with the rules regarding changed number of councillors, all current Councillors shall retire at the pending election and be eligible for re-election subject to being otherwise qualified to nominate;

d. the two-year term of office remains the default term for the Branch save for the ensuing term whereby the last four Councillors elected by ballot (or drawn by lot in the case of an uncontested election) shall have a "one-off" one year term until the 2026 election, upon which the regular pattern of electing half of the Branch Council each year shall resume."

The above information is lodged under subsection 189(1) of the Act.

Signed:



Peter Beveridge

National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA)

7 March 2025

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Regulation 138

Prescribed Information for elections by the National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA)

I, Peter Beveridge, President of the National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA), state that the information is lodged under section 189 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* and that I am the person authorised to make the statement.

NECA hereby lodges prescribed information in respect of elections to be conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission.

National Council: Fourteen (14) comprising two (2) National Councillors elected by and from each Branch Council (see branch elections below);

National Executive: Seven (7) comprising one (1) National Executive member elected by each Branch Council from the relevant Branch's 2 National Councillors (see branch elections below);

National President, National Vice President, National Treasurer, - elected by the members of the National Council and from the 7 National Executive members.

New South Wales Branch

- Four (4) Branch Councillors (*for Brown, Hardingham, McGinty, Vacant position (arising from resignation of Hicks)*) for a 2-year term – DVS.
- Branch President, Branch Vice President, Branch Treasurer – CES.
- Two (2) National Councillors, one of which shall also be the National Executive Member - CES.
- Branch Secretary (**Judd**) for a 1-year term (last elected 28/06/2024 under Rule 56.6) – DVS

Victoria Branch

- Four (4) Branch Councillors (*for Joyce, Peirce, Hargreaves, Smith*) for a 2-year term – DVS.
 - Branch President, Branch Vice President, Branch Treasurer – CES.
 - Two (2) National Councillors, one of which shall also be the National Executive Member - CES.
- Note: Vic Branch determined in June 2023 to abolish the office of Branch Secretary upon imminent expiration of current term - as per rule 37.7(a).*

South Australia/Northern Territory Branch

- Four (4) Branch Councillors (*for Cross, Mattner, Poulton, Butler*) for a 2-year term – DVS.
- Branch President, Branch Vice President, Branch Treasurer – CES.
- Two (2) National Councillors, one of which shall also be the National Executive Member - CES.
- Branch Secretary (**Moore**) for a 1-year term (last elected 16/07/2024 under Rule 56.6) – DVS

Western Australia Branch

- Three (3) Branch Councillors (*for Terranova, Allan, Charlton*) for a 3-year term – DVS
- Branch President, Branch Vice President, Branch Treasurer – CES.
- Two (2) National Councillors, one of which shall also be the National Executive Member – CES
- Branch Secretary (**Terranova**) for a 1-year term (last elected 18/7/2024 under Rule 56.6) – DVS.

Australian Capital Territory Branch

- Two (2) Branch Councillors (*for Waters, Burgess*) for a 2-year term – DVS
- Branch President, Branch Vice President, Branch Treasurer - CES
- Two (2) National Councillors, one of which shall also be the National Executive Member - CES.
- Branch Secretary (**Judd**) for a 1-year term (last elected 28/06/2024 under Rule 56.6) – DVS

Queensland Branch

- Four (4) Branch Councillors (for **Jonsson, Lethbridge, Peterson, James** (David James filled casual vacancy for remainder of term arising from Resignation of Elsdon) for a 2-year term – DVS.
 - Branch President, Branch Vice President, Branch Treasurer – CES.
 - Two (2) National Councillors, one of which shall also be the National Executive Member - CES.
- Note: Qld Branch abolished the office of Branch Secretary on 26 April 2023 as per rule 37.7(a).*

Tasmania Branch

- Four (4) Branch Councillors (for **Richardson, Hobson, Skipworth, Frame**) for a 2-year term – DVS
- Branch President, Branch Vice President, Branch Treasurer – CES.
- Two (2) National Councillors, one of which shall also be the National Executive Member - CES.
- Branch Secretary (**Judd**) for a 1-year term (last elected 05/07/2024 under Rule 56.6) – DVS

Reason for Election

Scheduled elections as provided in the Rules of the Association.

Electorate

- The electorate for the DVS elections in the Branches is the financial membership of the respective Branch.
- The electorate for the Branch CES elections is the Branch Council of the respective Branch.
- The electorate for the CES election for National President, Vice President and Treasurer is the National Council.

Closure of Roll for Voters

The Roll will close 10 days prior to date nominations for office are invited.

Voting System

The direct voting system is indicated as DVS.

The collegiate electoral system is indicated as CES.

Nominations Open and Close

Branch Councillors Elections by DVS – Stage 1

- Nominations open – on or before 1 May each year - per rule 35.1
- Nominations close – not later than 14 to 28 days after nominations open - per rule 35.1

Branch Secretary Elections (for each of NSW, SA/NT, ACT, WA and Tas Branches) by DVS

Nominations Open: as determined by the Returning Officer having regard to rule 37.11.

Nominations Close: as determined by the Returning Officer having regard to rule 37.11.

Annual Branch Elections (incl National Council representatives and National Executive representatives) by CES – Stage 2

Nominations Open: At the first meeting of Branch Council following Branch Council election, such meeting to be held on or before 15 July each year – per rule 35.1

Nominations Close: At the meeting when nominations are called – per rule 35.1

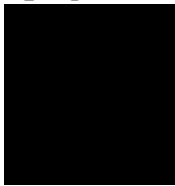
Annual election for National President, National Vice President and National Treasurer by CES - Stage 3

Nominations Open: upon completion of election of National Councillors – per rule 35.1

Nominations Close: not later than 30 Aug each year – per rule 35.1

The above information is lodged under subsection 189(1) of the Act.

Signed:



.....
Peter Beveridge
National President
National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA)

19 February 2025