



DECISION

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

National Electrical and Communications Association
(E2026/81)

MR STEENSON

SYDNEY, 11 JUNE 2026

Arrangement for conduct of election.

[1] On 14 May 2026 the National Electrical and Communications Association (**NECA**) lodged prescribed information, and on 9 June 2026 lodged amended prescribed information, with the Fair Work Commission (**Commission**) for an election to fill the following office for a new term of office:

National Secretary

(1)

[2] Rule 37.1 of the organisation's rules provides that the National Council may, from time to time, determine that the organisation will cease to have the office of a National Secretary, or to reinstate the office of a National Secretary. Rule 29.1 provides that the National Secretary's term of office is one year.¹

[3] Since 27 April 2023, the organisation had ceased to have the office of a National Secretary.² More recently, on 30 April 2026, under the provisions of rule 37.1(b) of the NECA rules, the National Council relevantly resolved to reinstate the office of a National Secretary with immediate effect and for the election to be conducted as soon as practicable.

[4] NECA has requested that nominations for this election (**E2026/81**) should not be called until the current election for the National Councillors (**E2026/14**) has been declared. National Councillors are eligible to nominate for National Secretary which is elected by NECA members.

[5] Upon reviewing the prescribed information lodged on 14 May 2026, Commission staff identified that the person who had signed that prescribed information may not be an officer of the organisation – in that they may not be eligible to hold that office and/or the mechanism by which the organisation purported to put them into that office may not available to it.

[6] Ultimately, I have not had to make a determination in that regard for the purpose of this election decision as, on 9 June 2026, the organisation lodged prescribed information for the same office – this time signed by the duly elected National President.

¹ Rulebook R2025/208, certified 27 January 2026

² Notification of change lodged by the National President on 24 May 2023 – see matter AR2023/11

[7] I am satisfied that an election for the abovenamed office 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 Australian Electoral Commission.



DELEGATE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

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PR810391

Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Regulation 138

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

I, Peter Beveridge, National 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 an election for the undermentioned office to be conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission.

Office: National Secretary

Reason for Election

The organisation has determined to re-instate (as in re-create) the office of National Secretary.

Pursuant to NECA rule 37.1(b), at its meeting on 30 April 2026, National Council resolved as follows:

“The National Council RESOLVED that:

- The office of National Secretary be re-instated with immediate effect.*
- Mr Stewart Joyce, the current CEO be appointed as National Secretary, pending the completion of an election to fill the said office in accordance with the Rules.*
- Such election is to be conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission as soon as practicable under the Rules.”*

Electorate

The electorate for the direct voting system election for National Secretary is the whole of the financial membership of the organisation – rule 37.6.

Closure of Roll for Voters

The Roll will close 10 days prior to date nominations for office are invited – rule 37.6.

Voting System

Direct voting system – rule 37.6.

Nominations Open and Close

To be determined by the Returning Officer having regard to rule 29.1(a) which provides that National Officeholders will hold office for a term of one year, commencing on 1 October in each year.

Relevantly, rule 37.5 in effect, requires the Returning Officer to provide each of the 14 members of National Council with a Nomination Form *“specifying the closing date for nominations which shall not be less than seven nor more than twenty-eight days from the date of delivery or posting of the nomination forms”*.

Rule 37.6 reads in part: “Nominations shall be in writing signed by the nominator and assented to by the candidate and shall be endorsed by two members of the National Council. If only one nomination to fill the office is received the person so nominated shall be declared elected unopposed by the Returning Officer, by notice given to or posted to the President.”

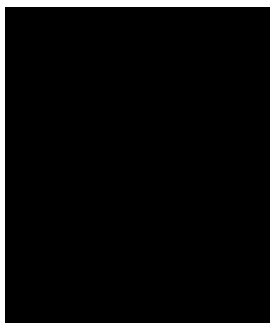
As the NECA Branch elections for its 14 National Councillors are currently on foot (refer E2026/14) but may not be declared elected for every branch until mid-June this year, it is submitted that nominations for National Secretary should not be called until the National Councillors for the ensuing term have been declared elected.

Pending rule alterations

There are no pending rule alterations.

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

Signed:



Peter Beveridge
President
National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA)

9 June 2026