



Community & Public Sector Union

(State Public Services Federation Tasmania) Inc.

Media Release

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Tasmania in for Dark Times

The announcement by the Premier Lara Giddings that she intends to cut 2300 full time equivalent Public Sector jobs over the next 3 years will throw the Tasmanian economy into reverse.

“Today’s announcement will instil fear into every Public Sector worker in the state, fear that will cause them to immediately reduce their personal spending”, said CPSU General Secretary Tom Lynch. “This will further exacerbate the downturn being experienced by the retail sector and drive the Tasmanian economy towards recession.”

The 2300 full time equivalent job losses announced equates to around 3500 Tasmanian breadwinners when part-time employment is taken into consideration. With corresponding private sector job losses likely to occur at a factor of 2.3 times, these measures will see around 12,000 jobs disappear over the next few years.

“Labor went to the election promising they would create jobs in our economy but this decision alone will see employment fall by around 12,000”, said Mr. Lynch. “It’s a strange way for the Premier to begin her ‘getting back to basics’ agenda that was supposed to prioritise job growth.”

In discussions with the CPSU the Premier was unwilling to rule out the use of forced redundancies to achieve the cuts detailed despite the Labor Party, and the Premier personally, making ‘rock solid’ commitments to Public Sector workers before last year’s election that there would be no forced redundancies.

In her pre-election correspondence to Public Sector workers Ms. Giddings provided a “*rock-solid guarantee, backed by 10 years of proof that there will be no forced redundancies under this State Labor Government*”

“How can Tasmanians trust the Premier and her government when the commitments they give are not worth the paper they are written on,” said Mr. Lynch.

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