

**Submission
No 37**

INQUIRY INTO NSW WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

Organisation: Pinus Sawmills

Date received: 10/05/2012

From: Rachel Reid
To: "workerscompinquiry@parliament.nsw.gov.au" <wor...>
Date: 5/10/2012 2:51 pm
Subject: Workcover reform

To whom it may concern:

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this email as a small business owner who is very concerned about the NSW workers compensation scheme.

Being a small business in Queanbeyan, a small town along the ACT border, we have contributed to the NSW workers compensation scheme for many years. Considering that we are close to the ACT border, a few staff members are travelling and working across the border. To protect everyone involved, Pinus Sawmills holds 2 workers compensation policies, 1 for NSW and 1 for ACT. Previously we would nominate a portion of the gross wages for ACT and pay the remainder in NSW and that's how we have done so for many years. These days we are forced to have a NSW policy for our entire gross wage as well as an ACT policy for a portion of our wages hence doubling up in our workers compensation costs.

I have been informed that NSW workers compensation premiums could increase dramatically to cover the deficit NSW work cover is in. Surely these increases will damage business and job growth in NSW. Are we not already paying higher premiums than Victoria and Queensland?

I feel that there is an urgent need for reform on the workers compensation scheme. I would also like to suggest that a national agreement be put in place to aid those businesses who have to deal with cross border issues.

Yours sincerely,

Rachel Reid
Pinus Sawmills