Inquiry into campaigning at polling places Submission 19

Submission Electoral Matters

We had 30 ETU members intimidating voters and our volunteers at the prepolling in Tweed Heads at the recent State Election. They were from the ETU union in Queensland, and I understand were paid \$1000 per week plus full board and \$500 bonus for each both Nationals lost. Our campaign office was just around the corner from the Polling Booth. They were pushing and rude,to the voters ,when we complained to the Officer in charge of the Polling Booth, they would disappear, until he went back inside. Some of our older members were intimidated and complained to me(I was in charge of the prepolling) Also they were outside our campaign Office waving banners and shouting put Nationals last, complaints to the Council were made and they would attend, but soon got sick of our complaints and ceased attending. The round about in front of the Office in the last week of prepolling, became a traffic night mare, with them racing round and round tooting and shouting it was very dangerous. Calls to the Police were ignored. The danger to the Public from 4 'clock on was terrible. At all mayor intersections in the Tweed the unionist would rush out waving the placards in front of cars and shouting anti National slogans. The two week prepolling in previous years, were interesting and good, all of the parties got on and cooperated with each other. This 2015 State Election was a night mare.

Sincerely Prudence Cutting

Prue Cutting

Hon. Secretary – Tweed State Electorate Council



for Regional NSW