Submission Number: 140 Date Received: 30/10/2011

From: Joy Priest

Sent: Sunday, 30 October 2011 8:43 PM

To: Committee, RA (REPS)
Subject: FIFO'S my point of view

Hi,

I saw your article on FIFO'S in a recent North West paper, Im sorry its taken a while to get around to writing this.. I live in Newman WA and was recently employed as a Census collector. Alot of the people in the area I covered were FIFO'S. They dont really have a good reputation in towns like this and Ive had heard all the rumours about their lack of interest and commitment to the towns they work in. Delivering and collecting census papers certainly showed this first hand and I was shocked by the attitude many had. A large number had no interest in Newman or doing the Census. Most of the ones I dealt with were on 2 and 1 rosters, 2 weeks working in Newman and 1 week with family, under the census guidelines this made them residents here as they are here more than with their family but they flatly refused to be counted in Newman. Even when I talked with them about the importance for Newman, for medical care if they were hurt at work, for the children here etc most did not want to know. They wanted any funding to go where their family/children live. Although this is understandable in one way they were also adamant Newman was nothing to them other than the place they worked.

This is not good for our community and offers no real benefit to this town and the many other towns with large numbers of FIFO'S.

Regards Joy Priest