

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
BEFORE THE MARINE EMPLOYEES' COMMISSION

INLANDBOATMEN'S UNION  
OF THE PACIFIC,

Complainant,

v.

WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES,

Respondent.

MEC CASE NO. 18-06

DECISION NO. 494 - MEC

ORDER CLOSING  
SETTLED COMPLAINT

*Margaret Pelland*, Business Agent, appearing for the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific.

Rob McKenna, Attorney General, by *David Slown*, Assistant Attorney General, appearing for the Washington State Ferries.

THIS MATTER came on regularly before the Marine Employees' Commission (MEC) on January 27, 2006, when the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific (IBU) filed an unfair labor practice complaint, MEC Case No. 18-06, against the Washington State Ferries (WSF).

IBU's complaint charged WSF with engaging in unfair labor practices within the meaning of RCW 47.64.130(1) by interfering with, restraining or coercing employees in the exercise of rights; dominating or interfering with the formation or administration of an employee organization; encouraging or discouraging membership in an employee organization by discrimination in regard to: hiring, tenure, any term or condition of employment; and refusing to bargain collectively with representatives of employees.

Specifically, IBU alleged that WSF made a unilateral change in working conditions when it stopped filling open vacation slots and eliminated relief positions at the Bainbridge and Edmonds Terminals without bargaining with the Union. IBU further alleged that WSF distributed printed material to terminal employees disparaging the IBU.

Following review of the IBU's complaint, the Commission determined that the facts alleged may constitute an unfair labor practice, if later found to be true and provable. A settlement conference was set for August 7, 2006 with Commissioner John Sullivan assigned to serve as Mediator. Commissioner Elizabeth Ford was designated to act as Hearing Examiner for the hearing scheduled on October 13, 2006.

On October 12, 2006, IBU Business Agent Margaret Pelland advised the MEC that "recent changes in the collective bargaining agreement with WSF have addressed the issues which are central in the . . . case, rendering the case moot." The IBU withdrew its complaint.

### **ORDER**

It is hereby ordered that the unfair labor practice complaint, filed by IBU against WSF and docketed as MEC Case 18-06, is closed in acknowledgement of the parties' agreement.

DATED this 28th day of November 2006.

MARINE EMPLOYEES' COMMISSION

/s/ JOHN SWANSON, Chairman

/s/ JOHN SULLIVAN, Commissioner

/s/ ELIZABETH FORD, Commissioner