

LIVEWIRE

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UNISON Manweb Branch

Metering staff face FOUR YEAR pay freeze

WELCOME TO THE 19th CENTURY

Metering staff are still reeling with shock at Scottish Power's proposals for the new Metering business:

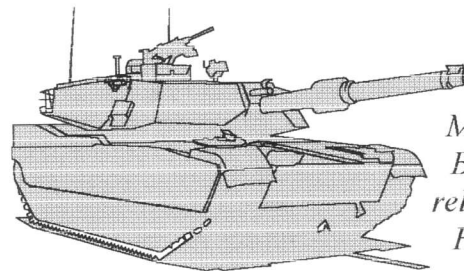
- ♦ A four year pay freeze
- ♦ A 40 hour week
- ♦ £3,000 cut in pay bands
- ♦ No redeployment

Having stacked up group wide profits of over £300 million, Scottish Power's claim that parts of its business such as Metering are uncompetitive has been greeted with incredulity by staff.

Longer hours - lower pay

While directors on six figure salaries watch their bloated share bonuses leap ever upwards, staff are meant to tighten their belts, work longer hours and watch their low paid salaries get eaten away by inflation in the name of market forces.

The business case to justify this blatant



*Metering
Business
release new
HR logo.*

attack on the living standards of hard pressed staff is based on claims that staff are paid above 'market' rates. Put another way - either take the cut or we will find a cowbot outfit who pay peanuts to do your jobs instead.

If this is to be the new negotiating stance of the Scottish Power Group then it is extremely unlikely that the relatively good industrial relations of recent years will continue.

Staff will be thinking long and hard about the position which Scottish Power has placed them in and will be keen to ensure no avenue is closed off in the struggle to protect the terms and conditions which have been hard fought over many years.