

CSIRO Staff Association

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A section of the Community and Public Sector Union



Hon Ed Husic MP
Minister for Industry and Science
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

24th April 2024

Dear Minister Husic,

I am writing to you on behalf of CSIRO Staff Association (a section of the CPSU) members working at CSIRO.

CSIRO Staff Association members working across CSIRO are very concerned by the current restructure and the impact on the important work and science capability of CSIRO. CSIRO leadership indicated in February this year that the current restructure of their Enterprise Support Services (ESS) is aiming for a 25% cost reduction target. We are bracing for potentially significant job losses – with over 400 jobs on the line.

Staff in Enterprise Support Services provide critical support to research scientists, programs and CSIRO Business Units. A 25% cut could greatly damage the CSIRO and their ability to continue with critical science and research programs.

Our members are deeply concerned by the lack of transparency and certainty for CSIRO staff in the Enterprise Support Services team. Cuts to jobs in the ESS puts projects of national significance at risk.

At the same time as this restructure, CSIRO informed staff on 16 April that there is also now an additional restructure resulting in up to 43 staff in the Health and Biosecurity Division being made redundant, affecting Kintore, Samri, Waite and Westmead sites in South Australia and New South Wales.

CSIRO staff in the Health and Biosecurity Business Unit do important work in health and biosecurity preparedness and responsiveness, digital health, and health and wellbeing to create a resilient population and health system for Australia. Cuts to jobs in the Health and Biosecurity Business Unit will reduce Australia's ability to tackle major national and international health and biosecurity challenges and risks our ability to be prepared and ready to respond to existing and emerging risks.

Specifically, staff working in Public Health & Wellbeing (PHW), Value Added Nutrition (VAN), CSIRO Clinical Research (CCR) and Integrated Diagnostics (IDX) will be impacted by the current round of job cuts. This will impact capability in nutrition and dietetics, analysis of food and nutritional products, trial and data management and disease diagnostics. At the time of writing, we are still awaiting relevant detail on more cuts to jobs at CSIRO.

I would like to bring Staff Association delegates working in CSIRO to meet with you to discuss their concerns with the impact of these restructures on the critical work of CSIRO. Please contact CPSU Political Organiser Jess Stone in the first instance at jess.stone@cpsu.org.au or on 0437166402 in regard to a time to meet.

Yours sincerely,



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