

# Media Release

12 April 2007



## NAB AXE 85 JOBS IN OFFSHORE DRIVE

The Finance Sector Union has called on the Howard Government to take a stand for Australian jobs in the banking industry after the National Australia Bank today commenced their drive to offshore 424 jobs.

The Bank today confirmed the first set of 85 jobs from their Melbourne operations are heading to India, commencing with a phase of 'knowledge transfer'.

FSU National Secretary Paul Schroder said it was becoming clear the Federal Government has no plan for the Australian banking industry and was giving tacit support for banks that were taking the low road to off-shoring jobs.

"It's time the Howard Government awoke from its slumber and fulfilled its obligation to protect Australian jobs and skills," Mr Schroder said.

"Once the financial knowledge and skills have left Australia, there is no way to get it back. The trickle of jobs being sent offshore is soon to become a flood, with OECD estimates up to 200,000 jobs in the industry could be sent overseas."

NAB is also refusing to disclose what sensitive customer data such as credit card and passport numbers will be sent to India.

"This is bad news for NAB customers as Australian privacy laws do not cover operations outside our national borders," Mr Schroder said.

He called on NAB to follow the lead of the Commonwealth Bank, which had ruled out off-shoring work to India.

"We know the bank's customer do not support this policy and they are looking for providing who treat their workers – and their customers sensitive personal information – with more respect."

ENDS

**Spokesperson:** Paul Schroder, 0419 371 183  
**Media:** Gemma Swart, 0414 873 291

**For information on which banks are off-shoring work go to [www.bankcheck.net.au](http://www.bankcheck.net.au)**