

# Media Release

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## WESTPAC ASKED TO LEAD DEBATE AGAINST OFFSHORING

Finance Sector Union will today call on Westpac to share with workers, customers and shareholders the reasons it has turned its back on off-shoring jobs to India and to rule out any future plans to send jobs offshore.

Last month an internal review by Westpac found the proposal to shift 485 customer data jobs off shore from their Concord Operations centre to India did not 'stack up' in a business sense or meet stakeholder criteria.

The bank should use the opportunity of the AGM to lead the industry debate against offshoring, which could threaten up to 200,000 Australian jobs,

Finance Sector National Secretary, Paul Schroder will today put questions to the banks board at the AGM in Brisbane.

"It's time for the bank to share with workers, shareholders and the public the reasons why off-shoring doesn't stack up.

"In Westpac's case they have made a good decision that protects Australian jobs – they should share their insights for the benefit of customers, the workforce, shareholders and the industry" said Mr Schroder.

Mr Schroder said public opinion is firmly behind the banks not off shoring. "An FSU survey has found 82% of customers say that they would consider changing banks if their bank sacked Australian workers and sent their information off shore."

ENDS

Responses to the FSU questions from the Westpac board will be posted at [www.bankcheck.net.au](http://www.bankcheck.net.au)

Union members will be present at the Westpac AGM  
12:30 pm, Sofitel Brisbane, 249 Turbot Street, Brisbane, Thursday 14 December 2006,.

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