

Car workers face stand-downs

ABOUT 7500 car industry workers could be stood down by Wednesday unless a dispute at a Gisborne parts factory is resolved.

About 400 workers at Flexdrive Industries meet today to decide if they will comply with an Arbitration Commission order to return to work by 10.30 am.

The workers are on strike over a superannuation claim of \$12.50 a week which is outside the 3 per cent wage guidelines.

One thousand Holden assembly workers in Dandenong were stood down on Thursday night.

Holden's public relations manager John Morrison said if the dispute was resolved today, the workers would return to work tomorrow.

But he said that if the dispute continued the company would have to consider stand-downs at its Elizabeth plant in SA.

About 1800 workers at Nissan's Clayton plant agreed to bring forward two rostered days off, scheduled for next year, to cover work at the plant today and tomorrow.

But Nissan, Mitsubishi and AMI Toyota doubt that stand-

downs can be avoided after Wednesday.

Ford spokesman John Miller said the shortage of parts was now extremely serious.

Flexdrive is Australia's sole supplier of control cables and ventilation parts.

Flexdrive has formally applied to take away the \$10 national pay rise awarded in March and has started the process of taking the union and its members to the Federal Court where \$1000-a-day fines can be imposed for industrial action.

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