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President: Jörg Hofmann General Secretary: Valter Sanches

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Brad Kohl
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IndustriALL Global Union calls on Western Canada LafargeHolcim to vastly improve health and safety conditions

Dear Mr Kohl,

I am writing this letter to you as General Secretary of IndustriALL Global Union, representing more than fifty million workers in the mining, energy and manufacturing industries in over 140 countries, including Canada and the USA, to call on Western Canada LafargeHolcim to address immediately health and safety working conditions in your operations, and establish a dialogue with our affiliate, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers.

We are deeply concerned by frequent and severe health and safety incidents in your operations, including a fatality in November 2019 in Seattle, a high-potential safety incident in October 2020 at Lafarge Exshaw in Alberta, and most recently, a large fan broke apart while in operation at Lafarge Richmond, killing a young engineer. Previous to this horrifying tragedy, other serious safety incidents did also occurred at the Richmond facility.

Therefore, we call on Western Canada LafargeHolcim to react without any delay to redress these serious health and safety incidents, which we strongly believe are preventable. In this sense, it is imperative that your company undertake the most basic of housekeeping and maintenance practices and evolve your programs with a commitment to continuous improvement in health and safety protocols, training standards and beyond.

Equally important, we urge Western Canada LafargeHolcim to engage in a social dialogue with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers to work together to ensure the health and safety, in particular in the middle of this terrible pandemic, of your highly dedicated and committed workforce.

I anticipate your swift response and action.

Sincerely,

Valter Sanches General Secretary