

Subject: End the lock-out at Honeywell Operation in
Metropolis, Illinois

Rome, 28th August 2014

Mr. David M. Cote
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End the lock-out at Honeywell Operation in Metropolis,
Illinois

Mr. Cote,
This letter of protest to you is sent on behalf of Fiom Cgil,
the main industrial union in Italy representing hundreds of
thousands workers. We are annoyed to hear of your company's
irresponsible corporate decision lockout the United
Steelworkers Local 7-669 members at the Honeywell uranium
conversion facility in Metropolis, Illinois.

The lockout is putting workers and local communities at
risk. As you know, the facility converts milled uranium, known
as yellowcake uranium, into uranium hexafluoride (UF₆) that is
used in nuclear fuel enrichment. The potentially dangerous
process requires the experience and knowledge of the now
locked out members of the United Steelworkers. During the last
lock-out, there were two near-miss tragedies due to
mishandling of dangerous chemicals, and management was cited
by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for helping replacement
scab workers to cheat on exams that ultimately allowed them to
operate the facility.

We see that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has stepped up
its safety inspections, as the facility is a much greater risk
with the skilled workers blocked from the workplace by
disgraceful bargaining of the management. The union is ready
to bargain in good faith and get back to work, but instead the
management bargaining committee refuses to change proposals
including to eliminate 31 jobs.

News of this misbehavior sends a very damaging message to
energy workers around the world. We expect an urgent reversal
of corporate strategy by Honeywell at Metropolis, Illinois.

Industrial relations there need repairing that begins with good faith bargaining from management and respect shown to the USW members, in line with all international labour standards.
Sincerely,

Stefano Maruca
International Secretary

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