

**IndustriALL Global Union's  
World Conference for the Energy Industries  
25-26 July 2018, St. Petersburg, Russia**

***“Building Union Power in Energy Industries”***

**SOLIDARITY STATEMENTS**

Having met on 25-26 July 2018 in St Petersburg, Russia, comprising over 200 delegates from around 70 affiliated national unions in some 50 countries from each continent of the world, the participants of IndustriALL Global Union's World Conference for the Energy Industries entitled “Building Union Power in Energy Industries” are saddened to learn that while the Conference continues around 80 people lost their lives over the worst forest fires in Greece. The Conference sends the deepest condolences to Greek workers and people and expresses full solidarity.

Likewise, the Conference has heard with great sadness that a dam collapsed and hydroelectric power plant destroyed totally in Laos which caused hundreds missing and 6,600 people as homeless. The Conference sends the condolences to energy workers and people in Laos by standing full solidarity with them.

The Conference also makes strong solidarity statements for the following three ongoing cases:

- 1.ExxonMobile (UGL) case in Australia
- 2.National Grid case in the United States
- 3.Total case in the United Kingdom

## **Solidarity with ExxonMobil (UGL) workers in Australia**

ExxonMobil is one of the world's largest companies. In Australia, it is notorious for paying no tax, despite making billions of dollars in profits from oil and gas.

In June 2017, ExxonMobil sacked its entire maintenance workforce at its Longford plant in Victoria, Australia. Via a contractor, UGL, it then offered the same workers their jobs back at 40% less pay and with massive changes to conditions.

UGL was able to do this through a small subsidiary in Western Australia, 3,500 kms away - about the same distance from Rome to St Petersburg - under Australia's anti-worker, anti-union "Fair" Work Act. Three people "voted" for this sham "agreement."

Members of the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union, Australian Workers Union, and Electrical Trades Union - all IndustriALL affiliates - have been on strike for over one year, and have maintained a picket through the heat of summer and the depths of winter. Thanks to the support of their families, their community, and their unions, members remain strong.

This meeting of IndustriALL Energy Unions expresses its deep solidarity with their unions and fellow workers at Longford. We call upon ExxonMobil to negotiate with these workers and their unions, and demand that they be returned to their jobs.

Further, we commit to holding ExxonMobil accountable through our national unions and will communicate with local representatives of ExxonMobil (where they exist in-country) to seek explanations of their union-busting activities at Longford.

This meeting will also send messages of solidarity to the Longford workers and publicise the bastardry of ExxonMobil at every opportunity until the dispute is resolved.

We stand with our brothers and sisters at Longford. We wish you solidarity and success.

## **Solidarity with the locked-out National Grid Workers in the United States**

The World Energy Conference of IndustriALL Global Union expresses its full support and solidarity with the locked-out United Steelworkers members at National Grid.

The Conference fully supports the struggle against the lockout and cutting of health insurance for 1,200 members of United Steelworkers Locals 12003 and 12012, and demands that National Grid reinstate health insurance, end the lockout and negotiate in good faith with its workforce.

The Conference does believe that the union members offered to continue working under the same conditions while negotiations continued in order to not interrupt the service, but instead the company locked them out, and used managers and contractors to maintain gas supplies. The use of poorly trained replacement workers is a threat to public safety.

The Conference calls on National Grid to immediately end the lockout and return the highly-skilled USW members to their jobs while negotiations for a fair contract continue. The company must stop all efforts to intimidate union members and drive down living and safety standards.

Support and Solidarity of IndustriALL's 50 million members is with USW and its members at National Grid.

## **Solidarity with Total Workers on the North Sea**

The World Energy Conference of IndustriALL Global Unions sends this message of support and solidarity to Unite members taking strike action at Total Installations and Rigs on the UK North Sea.

The Conference supports the fight by Unite members for a decent “work-life balance” and recognises Unite members opposition to working “three weeks offshore and three weeks onshore” and the problems this brings for workers employed in remote and dangerous locations.

The Conference also deplores the aggressive attitude taken by the management of Total in the UK towards the workers in preparing to take lawful industrial action with threats of “stepping up security”.

The Conference calls upon Total to honour its commitments and responsibilities under its GFA with IndustriALL Global Union and demands that the company discuss in a constructive manner a resolution to this dispute forthwith.