

Geneva, 9 March 2021

Newton B Jones  
International President  
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers (IBB)

By e-mail: [njones@boilermakers.org](mailto:njones@boilermakers.org)

## IndustriALL Global Union in solidarity with Boilermakers at Western Canada LafargeHolcim

Dear Brother Newton,

I am writing this letter to you as General Secretary of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industriall-union.org), representing more than fifty million workers in the mining, energy and manufacturing industries in over 140 countries, to express our full support and solidarity with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers at Western Canada LafargeHolcim in your struggle to achieve vastly improved health and safety working conditions.

We share your deep concern over the frequent and severe health and safety incidents at Western Canada LafargeHolcim 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. Before this horrifying tragedy, other serious safety incidents did also occurred at the Richmond facility.

In this sense, we just wrote to Brad Kohl, CEO of Western Canada LafargeHolcim to urge the company to redress immediately these serious health and safety incidents, which we strongly believe are preventable. It is imperative that Western Canada LafargeHolcim 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 significant, we urged 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.

We reiterate our solidarity and we will ask unions, which are members of LafargeHolcim trade union network, to show their support with the Boilermakers at Western Canada LafargeHolcim.

Long live international solidarity!

In solidarity,



Valter Sanches, General Secretary