

UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

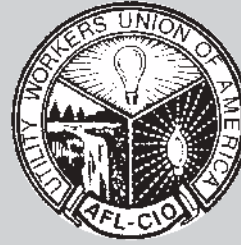
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**Via Electronic Mail**

April 9, 2014

Jyrki Raina  
General Secretary  
IndustriALL Global Union

Dear Brother Raina:

I am writing to extend fraternal greetings from the Utility Workers Union of America on this occasion of the 2014 IndustriALL Global Union World Energy Conference. Please extend our best wishes to all participating IndustriALL affiliates for a very successful conference.

We regret that the UWUA is unable to attend this critically important conference, in large part due to the urgent need for us to respond to the ongoing, ruthless attacks by FirstEnergy Corporation on utility workers in the U.S. As you know, this giant electric utility company is waging an unprecedented assault on working conditions and employment standards for UWUA members:

- ✓ In central Pennsylvania, FirstEnergy locked out nearly 150 UWUA members just three days before the U.S. Thanksgiving holiday, in an unsuccessful attempt to intimidate these workers into accepting unfair cutbacks in their retirement and healthcare security and in customer service standards.

This lockout has now lasted more than four months. Although management recently announced that it will finally end the lockout on Monday, April 14, FirstEnergy is seeking to undermine the collective bargaining process by unilaterally implementing its concession demands on these courageous workers.

- ✓ FirstEnergy is demanding similar concessions from more than 700 additional utility workers across the U.S. states of Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia. The collective agreement for these UWUA members is scheduled to expire on April 30.
- ✓ In West Virginia, UWUA members have been struggling to win their first union contract at a FirstEnergy power generating plant for more than three years, after organizing under the UWUA banner in October 2010. Despite these workers having voted for UWUA representation in two government-supervised elections, FirstEnergy continues to frustrate good faith negotiations through unfair demands for workplace concessions.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude for the solidarity shown by IndustriALL affiliates with our members in struggle with FirstEnergy. IndustriALL affiliates have demonstrated time and again that international solidarity is a powerful force for justice. We are convinced that, with the support of IndustriALL and its affiliated trade unions worldwide, we will prevail against FirstEnergy's unfair assault on the rights of UWUA members.

Once again, please accept our best wishes for a successful World Energy Conference.

Yours in Unity,

Michael Langford  
President