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*President: Berthold Huber
General Secretary: Jyrki Raina*

Geneva, 3 February 2015

Leo Gerard
International President
United Steelworkers (USW)
Five Gateway Center - Pittsburgh, PA 15222
USA

Sent by email to lgerard@usw.org

IndustriALL Global Union in Solidarity with USW Oil Workers

Dear Leo,

I am writing to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industriall-union.org), which represents 50 million workers in the mining, energy and manufacturing sectors in 143 countries, taking up the fight for better working conditions and trade union rights around the world, to express our full support and solidarity with the USW members in the oil industry, who are now in dispute throughout the industry, and in particular with the near 4,000 workers on strike at nine US oil refineries and chemical plants.

IndustriALL Global Union is outraged at the behavior of the employers' lead negotiator, Shell, which has made a series of derisory offers and then left the bargaining table as the past agreement ran out, refusing to provide the union with a counter offer and leaving the union with the only option of giving notice of a work stoppage.

We share your union's conviction that this stoppage is about fundamental issues of safety and health to the workforce and local communities and we demand that Shell return to the bargaining table and reach a fair and equitable agreement. This would benefit both workers and the industry.

We stand together with USW oil workers who have a fundamental right to be safe at work. Cost cutting through outside contractors, unreasonable working hours, and inadequate training opportunities cannot be allowed to jeopardize lives. We urge the oil companies to take serious consideration for their workers' welfare and the safety of the oil industry as a whole.

IndustriALL Global Union, together with our affiliated trade unions in the oil industry throughout the world, stand firm in solidarity with all our USW brothers and sisters.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "JRL", written in a cursive style.

Jyrki Raina
General Secretary
IndustriALL Global Union