CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

UPDATE NO. 9

Negotiations Break – To Resume Thursday, July 24

Union Negotiating Committee Leaves Pittsburgh with Full Proposal to the Company on the Table

While we had hoped to reach an agreement by Sunday, July 20, this goal was not reached. Over the weekend we submitted the last parts of a comprehensive proposal to the Company. We now have all contract language, pension and healthcare proposals, and issues related to capital investment in the company's hands. Only the actual numbers for wages and pensions remain to be proposed – and those will of course be the result of final bargaining.

Unfortunately, the company has been slow to respond favorably to our remaining issues. Much progress on local issues (issues limited to a single plant) has been made, but most of our contract language issues remain unresolved.

And, as is our usual practice, we will not begin serious discussions of economics (wages, pensions, and healthcare benefits for both active and retired steelworkers) until we have the basic contract language issues settled. While the economics are certainly important, our rights in areas such as safety and health, seniority, contracting out, and many other sections of our contract will not be compromised.

We will return to Pittsburgh Thursday committed to continue to work to insure that we get a fair and equitable settlement.

We will continue to keep you updated.

With our unity and solidarity, Steelworkers will, as always, prevail!

In Solidarity,

Tom Hargrove

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UNITED STEELWORKERS

USW

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