

NEWSLETTER

Communication Workers of America
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VERIZON CALL CENTER UPDATE....

The Call Center has lost over 30 members since 4th quarter of 2009. Now with calls holding and required daily overtime hiring has started and we welcome the new CWA Members coming into the Call Center. At this time, 39 new techs are to be hired as EVRC techs. Unfortunately, since management has indicated we are at "crisis mode" due to the call volumes and calls waiting to be answered, 24 contractors were brought in last week. I know this contractor issue is happening in other areas, but in the Call Center I have never seen this number of contractors brought in. Grievances will be issued until they are no longer working in the Center.

CITY OF EDGERTON.....

The Bargaining Committee is still in negotiations with the City. We will continue to bargain until we can agree on a fair Contract.

MILITARY PACKAGES FROM HOME....

CWA Local 4671 is sending out care packages to any of our members immediate family when they are deployed overseas. We have sent out one package to a CenturyLink members son. If you have an immediate family member who is deployed with any branch of the military please contact your Area Rep or a Local Officer.

ENJOY THE SUMMER MONTHS AREA, WE ALL KNOW HOW FAST THEY GO!!!

Jane Vander Kooy
CWA Local 4671 Vice President

Grievance Report - CWA Local 4671

Status as of May 5, 2010

Century Link

Century Link' using non represented employee to work on a constant and continual basis. Instead of represented employees who have been separated from the payroll. Thereby causing erosion of the bargaining unit. West area

Century Link's purposed changes to the health insurance which take effect January 2010 (North). Refusal by Century Link resulted in unfair labor practice against Century Link. Two hearings have been held. Third hearing has been held with the N.L.R.B. (Pending answer.)

Century Link's purposed changes to the health insurance which take effect January 2010 (South). Refusal by Century Link resulted in unfair labor practice against Century Link. Two hearings have been held. Third hearing has been held with the N.L.R.B. (Pending answer.)

Century Link's purposed changes to the health insurance which take effect January 2010 (East). Refusal by Century Link resulted in unfair labor practice against Century Link. Two hearings have been held. Third hearing has been held with the N.L.R.B. (Pending answer.)



Century Link's purposed changes to the health insurance which take effect January 2010 (West). Refusal by Century Link resulted in unfair labor practice against Century Link. Two hearings have been held. Third hearing has been held with the N.L.R.B. (Pending answer.)

Termination of Employee for misuse of company time (West area). Awaiting second step answer.

The company is using non union engineering employee to continually and consistently perform bargaining unit work for the Rice Lake area exchanges. Company declined to hold grievance meeting. (Appealed to top step second step was ignored.)

Frontier Telephone C.O.

Management employee transferring to craft wanting time bridged for seniority recognition. (Appealed to arbitration.)

Prairie Du Chien Police Department

Prairie Du Chien city official is causing a threatening and hostile work environment to a member. (Waiting for meeting with City Personnel Committee.)

Verizon Unit

Employee was terminated for attendance issues. (Meeting held awaiting top step answer.) Call Center.

Salaried non union employees are writing work orders and de-loading cable pairs. (Has been approved for arbitration.) South area.

Employee was wrongly denied the option to bump (displace) a junior employee in the most recent force reduction. (Received answer, will be appealed to arbitration.) North area.

Employees not receiving their overtime meals as outlined in the contract. (Has been accepted and approved for arbitration.) Call Center.

Members in the E.V.R.C. were coded unexcused not paid when they could not get to work due to the snow storm. (Top step meeting held awaiting answer.) Call Center.

The company has violated a contract article as well as past regional practices. Pay upgrade for CZT II classification for performing circuit work. (Answer received appealed to top step.)

Company is failing to maintain Central Office work force. (Appealed to arbitration.)

The company is eroding the bargaining unit membership by the use of contractors in the position of CZT I at the Wausau Main office.

The company is eroding the bargaining unit membership by the use of contractors in the position of CZT I in the East area.

The company is eroding the bargaining unit membership by the use of contractors in the position of CZT I in the South area.

Management performing craft work. (South area.)

The company is eroding the bargaining unit membership by the use of contractors in the E.V.R.C. (Call center.)

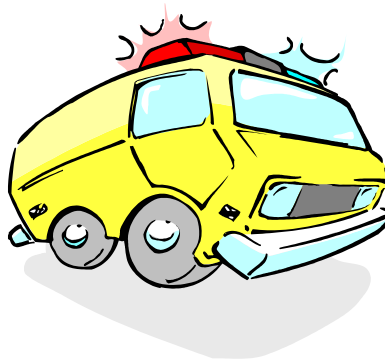
Compiled/submitted by Timothy D. Gile, Secretary CWA Local 4671.

UNION MEMBERS: ATTENTION!

The CWA National Union Convention will be held July 25-27, 2010.

The convention location will be Washington D.C. Nominations for delegates and alternates will be held at all area meetings in June.

Balloting will be conducted by the District office via
U.S. Mail after nominations are held.



Keep us informed. If you move please let us know your new contact information, please send that information to:

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Mar 1, 2010



The “Shame on Whirlpool” campaign is going strong, with CWA, IUE-CWA and AFL-CIO activists pressing the company not to close its Evansville, Ind., refrigerator plant and move those jobs to Mexico.

Union leaders have been reaching out to state and local elected officials to find ways to keep the plant on site.

About 5,500 union members and supporters rallied in Evansville to fight for their jobs and community. IUE-CWA President Jim Clark said “Whirlpool’s decision to shut down and move our work to Mexico is greed-driven and an atrocity. We know companies need to make money, but moving jobs out of the country during this economic crisis is shameful,” he said.

CWA District 4 Vice President Seth Rosen said that it’s time that corporations in the United States take some responsibility for helping to reverse around the economic downturn. “It’s time for our government at all levels to hold corporations accountable for their behavior, especially when they have received millions in taxpayer dollars.”

AFL-CIO President Rich Trumka, community leaders and activists and supporters across the region also joined the rally. A group of about 40 demonstrators, including Clark and Rosen, delivered petitions to the front door of the factory, calling on Whirlpool to keep the plant open.

Apparently, Whirlpool is trying to keep the shutdown a secret, because Paul Coburn, division vice president for Whirlpool’s Evansville Division, told workers not to participate in the march and rally, warning them that “these negative activities will only hamper employees when they look for future jobs.”

Whirlpool’s threat was reported in the Huffington Post and other media, and IUE-CWA filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board over the company’s interference with workers’ rights.

The plant is slated to close this year so that Whirlpool can spend \$110 million to build a new facility in Mexico, and refrigerators manufactured at this plant mainly will be sold in the U.S. market. If the plant closes, about 900 members of IUE-CWA Local 84808 and 200 managers will lose their jobs. Whirlpool currently is Evansville’s seventh largest employer.

IUE-CWA is keeping a bright spotlight on Whirlpool, putting up billboards with the “shame” message and leafleting local stores that buy Whirlpool products, including Lowes and Sears.

Whirlpool’s decision to abandon these workers and Evansville during such tough economic times is being partly subsidized by taxpayers, because Whirlpool continues to remain eligible for some of the \$300 million in taxpayer dollars available to companies that produce energy efficient appliances.

“Whirlpool is a bad corporate citizen who is twisting this country’s desire to reduce energy usage and using it to export jobs,” said Clark. “We are pushing to ensure that good intentions on going green don’t help fund loss of good manufacturing jobs.”

Local 84808 President Darrell Collins said, “Americans are sick of companies turning a blind eye to what is happening out there. They need to tell Whirlpool to act responsibly. We’ve got 1,100 people who are going to be out of a job.”

Bill Robertson, a member of Local 84808 and a 16-year Whirlpool veteran said our country must stop exporting U.S. jobs. “We’re not the first ones to go over and we won’t be the last if we don’t do something about it now and overturn unfair trade agreements.” A petition campaign by IUE-CWA asks activists to send a message to Whirlpool CEO Jeff Fettig that calls on Whirlpool to “be a good corporate citizen and keep the Evansville plant open.” Go to www.unionvoice.org/campaign/whirlpool to send the petition.

