

October 23, 2020

To Local 1010 Members:

Sisters and Brothers,

On October 18<sup>th</sup>, Indiana Governor Holcomb announced that all individuals, businesses, entities, and counties in Indiana will remain at "Stage 5" until November 14, 2020. This Executive Order will remain in place unless it is extended, modified or rescinded by Governor Holcomb. In our neighboring state, Illinois Governor, J.B. Pritzker, recently announced further restrictions in various parts of Illinois due to a steady rise in Covid-19 cases, deaths and increases in the Covid-19 positivity test rates.

The United States has averaged about 55,000 cases per day so far in October, way above September's average. Research at Johns Hopkins on Monday showed an additional 48,200 cases and almost 400 deaths on Sunday. Cases in the United States have been on a clear and steady incline since the initial peak in July declined to about 24,000 cases in early September. Since the start of the pandemic, there have been 8.16 million cases and 219,700 deaths nationally.

Not trying to be a pessimist, but the facts indicate that we must stay the course of keeping our hands cleaned, maintaining 6' or more of social distancing, and utilizing mask or face covering. All of these actions can help prevent and/or slowdown the spread of this terrible pandemic.

It is for our well-being that we follow in plant recommendations on hand cleanliness, surface cleaning, social distancing, wearing of masks, and daily self-monitoring. We can only benefit from following these safe practices at home, in public and at work. We are all affected by the health and wellbeing of each other. Let's do our best to support each other and our families by adhering to CDC recommendations regarding the prevention of spreading COVID-19! We have all heard the horror stories of friends, relatives and yes, our retirees that have died as a result of the Covid-19 Virus. Together, we can minimize the chances of us being add to the list of those stricken with Covid-19.

According to management, the operations will remain about the level of operations with a few exceptions as noted below:

- Our Riverdale Facility will continue production.
- At Indiana Harbor East (IHE), overall operations will maintain production levels. According to IHE Management this includes, 80" Hot Strip, #4 Steel Production, #3 Cold Strip facilities – 80" Tandem, #5 Pickle Line and the 29 Temper Mill. # 3 CAL line will be down next week doing their annual outage starting up the following week.

The USW International has announce its first Virtual Education Conference: Smart is Stronger November 17-18, 2020. Plus there are free on-line classes leading up to the conference. The Conference is free to all USW and Soar Members. **Local 1010 has a specific Registration Code: C28BX.** Use the following Link <u>http://usw1010.org/images/Virtual%20Education.pdf</u> to find out about the classes offered and how to sign up! If you have any questions about the conference, please contact the USW Education and Membership Development Department at 412-562-2253.

**Highmark is offering up to two reusable face masks to members to help slow the spread of the Coronavirus.** 1010 Members may request the masks through Highmark's website and the link for requesting masks is: <u>https://healthyliving.highmarkhealthplan.com/</u> If you have difficulties with the link you may also order your masks by calling Highmark Customer Service @ 866-267-3280.

Please note that our Health Awareness Initiative (HAI) benefit has been revised for 2020 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. **The revised 2020 Wellness Exams deadline is now through 12/31/20. All 2020 completed Wellness forms must be submitted to Highmark no later than 1/15/21.** The new HAI form is posted on the USW Local 1010 Website at <u>http://usw1010.org/images/HAI2020R.pdf</u>. The 2020 HAI verification and letter detailing the 2020 deadline extensions and the 2021 deadline change was also mailed out to all members. Also, **Open Enrollment Heath Care Booklets** will be arriving soon to our homes. Please review these Health Care Booklets as they have important **HealthCare Benefits Information**. Any questions please call Local 1010 Benefits Representatives Ernie Barrientez, Terra Samuel, or Kevin Bracket at 219-937-7784 ext. 117 or ext. 112.

JobLink has live and online classes as well as some classes in person onsite. See JobLink on Facebook here: https://www.facebook.com/BKJobLink/photos/a.415211498544234/3369275076471180/?type=3&theater See Fall 2020 Live Streamed Classes, Live and Online Classes here: http://usw1010.org/bulletins.html

The deadline for this scholarship specifically for the children/grandchildren of steelworkers is quickly approaching: Oct. 31. Read the attachments for details. http://usw1010.org/images/Flyer%202020,%20new%20date.pdf

The application is included here, <u>http://usw1010.org/images/Tino%20application%202020.pdf</u> but if you'd like a copy of it, you can come to JobLink to pick it up, too. Don't miss out!

As we look out for each other, be safe at work and at home. Remember our members and families that are experiencing health issues, keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

**If you have any COVID related issues please contact your department Safety**/Grievance representatives for resolution. If those issues cannot be solved at the department level, please contact the Local 1010 Safety Committee. All contacts are at this link <u>http://usw1010.org/safetydirectory.html</u>.

In Solidarity, Steve