

Geneva, 19 September 2014

Allison M. Macfarlane, Chairwoman
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001, USA

Transmitted by e-mail: Chairman@nrc.gov

Honeywell Threatens Safety by Lockout of USW Members

Dear Chairwoman Macfarlane:

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industrial-all-union.org), representing more than fifty million workers in the global manufacturing supply chain, including in the energy industry in 141 countries, to call on you to intervene against the prejudicial lockout of United Steelworkers Local 7-669 members at the Honeywell uranium conversion facility in Metropolis, Illinois. IndustriALL and its affiliates worldwide are of the strong opinion that Honeywell must bargain in good faith with the USW. We also feel very strongly that without the skilled USW workers at Honeywell Metropolis, the plant poses a serious deadly risk to the local community. It is therefore the responsibility of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), under your chairmanship, to intervene.

The NRC here has the opportunity to prove to the national and international community that it takes its mandate and responsibilities seriously and is ready to stand up to large corporations who break the rules and cause a danger.

Apart from violating the core labour rights of its employees at the uranium conversion facility in Metropolis, Illinois, Honeywell is putting workers and local communities at risk. The facility converts milled uranium, known as yellowcake uranium, into uranium hexafluoride (UF₆) that is used in nuclear fuel enrichment. The potentially dangerous process requires the experience and knowledge of the now locked out members of the United Steelworkers. We know that the U.S. NRC has taken some serious precautions during the lockout and has stepped up safety inspections to a degree. However, production continues with scab replacement workers and the NRC is the responsible authority that must stop the dangerous plant's activity entirely until USW Local 7-669 members are back at their posts.

Honeywell's proposal in bargaining with USW includes language that would allow management to systematically replace permanent, union workers with contractors. The unskilled contractors cost Honeywell more than the permanent USW workers already at the plant. This regressive proposal is unacceptable.

I anticipate your quick reaction and reply.

Sincerely,



Jyrki Raina
General Secretary

CC: Mr. Leo Gerard, International President, USW