

12 May 2011

David M. Cote
CEO Honeywell

Honeywell: end the lock-out in Metropolis (IL) immediately

Dear David M. Cote,

On behalf of workers in Europe's metal, chemical and energy industries and services, and also representing workers in regulatory and public authorities, we call on you to urgently end the lock out of 228 workers in Honeywell's nuclear plant in Metropolis, Illinois (US), workers locked out since 28th June 2010, over 300 days.

Considering the height of current concern about safety and security in the nuclear industry and its supply chain, particularly after the disaster at Fukushima in Japan, we are deeply concerned about the situation in Metropolis.

Nuclear facilities must be run by highly trained and skilled workers, within companies ensuring their workforces' health and safety, a high level of safety for the wider community and full transparency in the treatment and processing of highly dangerous materials. Independent oversight by public authorities must be guaranteed.

We are therefore appalled by the reported findings of the US nuclear watchdog, the National Regulatory Commission, and the federal Occupational Safety and Health Authorities, of uncontrolled releases of toxic chemicals, breaches in safety procedure and training.

We believe the safety of the plant has been compromised on several occasions by the present temporary workforce. This is unacceptable in an industry which has such societal and environmental responsibility.

We call on you to take all measures to ensure that this lock out be ended immediately, with all workers welcomed back to their plant without reprisals, and with full agreement of their union the United Steel Workers.

We attach the position adopted by Europe's Honeywell workforce on the 10 May for your further consideration.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Scherrer
EMF General Secretary



Reinhard Reibsch
EMCEF General Secretary



Jan-Willem Goudriaan
EPSU Deputy-General Secretary

ANNEX to letter:

10 May 2011

We the European Works Council of Honeywell on behalf of 30,000 workers in Europe, wish to register with you the President of the European Works Council the following:

“The European workers of Honeywell wish to remind you of your responsibilities to all Honeywell employees Worldwide and the communities in which they live.

We are aware of the LOCK OUT of 228 workers in Honeywell’s nuclear plant in Metropolis, Illinois U S, locked out since 28th June 2010, over 300 days.

We understand that these workers are not on strike, but have been locked out of their plant by an instruction from Honeywell Corporate.

We believe the safety of the plant has been compromised on several occasions by the present temporary workforce.

We find these actions totally unacceptable and we are dismayed at the inflexible attitude of Honeywell management towards its long standing employees of Metropolis.

We have agreed to support our fellow workers using all possible means, and would demand that this lock out should be ended immediately, with all workers to be welcomed back to their plant without any reprisals, and with full agreement of their union the United Steel Workers.”

Signed on behalf of the
European Works
Council.

Michael Petersen

Signed on behalf of the
European Metalworkers
Federation.

Ian Tonks