

# LOCAL 1010



## Warn Act Notice

On Tuesday, May 12th, the company delivered a letter to Local 1010 and Local 1011 under Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act informing us that says:

“...pursuant to the Worker Adjustment and Notification Act (“WARN”) and its accompanying regulations , this notice is to advise you of a pending ‘mass layoff,’ as defined by WARN, at the Indiana Harbor, Flat Carbon facility located at 3210 Watling Street, East Chicago, Indiana, 46312.”

The Worker Adjustment and Notification Act (WARN) was made law in 1989 and is overseen by the Department of Labor. On its website the Department of Labor describes the WARN Act as follows:

“WARN offers protection to workers, their families and communities by requiring employers to provide notice 60 days in advance of covered plant closings and covered mass layoffs. This notice must be provided to either affected workers or their representatives (e.g., a labor union); to the State dislocated worker unit; and to the appropriate unit of local government.”

The reason the company told us they were issuing a WARN notice was because they intend to idle large sections of the old LTV facilities on the West Side of the Canal resulting in significant extended layoffs for large numbers of the workers in Local 1011. They did not inform us of any intention to idle facilities or have extended mass layoffs of any facilities on the East Side of the Canal (Local 1010).

The company gave Local 1010 a notification because they were advised by the Legal Department of the Company that they should treat Indiana Harbor Flat operations as one facility and take the safe course of notifying both locals. They did not identify the employees of any department represented by Local 1010 that were going to have a mass layoff. All the departments having mass layoffs were on the West Side represented by Local 1011.

Earlier this year the company gave Local 1010 a WARN notice for the Indiana Harbor Bar Company. They treated the Bar mill at Plant 4 as a separate section of the company and we had immediate meetings with the people in Plant 4 to give them the information we had. If the company had notified us of any such plans for the East Side we would have done the same for those departments. But they have not notified us of any such plans.

It is important to understand that although the company does not plan an extended shutdown of any departments on the East Side. However, they do plan to idle some operations on the East Side during the summer, unless orders pick up. Whether such temporary shutdowns will result in layoffs is unknown at this time, but the current WARN ACT Notice that we received does not indicate any such temporary shutdown plans or layoffs.

If you still have questions, feel free to call the Local 1010 Hall at 398-3100. As always, we encourage everyone to attend our regular monthly union meetings that are on the first Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm.

*In Solidarity,*

Tom Hargrove, President

USW Local 1010

**If the job is not safe, make it safe or don't do it!**