

UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

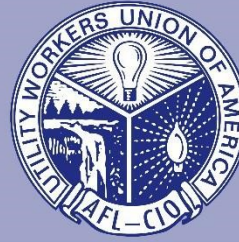
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To the Members of Local 609:

Stand strong as you continue to fight NPL for a fair contract. You have the full strength and support of the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA) and its members across the country at your side. Fair wages, better benefits and above all, improved safety protections – so that everyone who leaves for work returns home to their families everyday – are worth the fight.

NPL's failure to invest in the necessary safety training resources has resulted in a long rap sheet of incidents that puts not only you at risk on the job, but also the communities in which you live and serve. It's why UWUA is negotiating for a safety and mentoring committee. A safety committee gives UWUA members a voice in every aspect of safety and training to avoid incidents. This kind of safety reporting infrastructure also provides NPL with much needed assistance in the repair and replacement of critical gas infrastructure across southwest Oregon.

Additionally, you all work tirelessly year-round spending time away from your families to provide a critical public service. You deserve to be fairly compensated for this work. While the bosses at NPL might be beholden to Avista, it's time they start listening to the basic demands we are making – including fair wages, vacation time and paid holidays – important and necessary benefits that give us the peace of mind to do our jobs.

After weeks, of bargaining, UWUA representatives have seen nothing but bad faith from the other side of the table. We will continue to use our power, leverage and solidarity to negotiate a fair contract. As members of UWUA, and as workers, we can fight for nothing less.

In solidarity,

James Slevin
National President