

To the members of Local 290 from Business Manager Lou Christian

Update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Impact May 2nd, 2020

Brothers and Sisters,

We continue to see plans for increased hiring in our High-Tech sector. We have an open call for combo wire welders. Many job sites continue to use screening questionnaires to access the job. The UA says this is becoming common in states that are allowing more people to work. If you have concerns about these screenings contact your Steward or Business Agent, we are wanting to make sure they are reasonable and consistent following CDC and Oregon guidelines. For everyone's safety please don't work if you are not feeling well.

We are continuing to work with the Partners for Energy Progress to provide positive information on Natural Gas. Click the link [Partners for Energy Progress](#) Many organizations are joining with us.

### **UA Update FAQ**

[Cobra Claims Time Limits to File Extended](#)

[5-1-20 UA Chart of Covid-19 Lockdown Orders by State](#)

[4-30-20 UA FAQs for BMs](#)

### **Local Union Updates**

[Executive Board /Officers meeting 4/29](#)

**Membership Meeting-May 15<sup>th</sup>** I have again canceled this upcoming meeting due to the ongoing restrictions of the size of group meetings. This cancelation was discussed at the 4/29 Executive Board and Officers meeting and cancelation was recommended.

**Paul Sprenger** Pipeline and Gas Distribution Agent last day was Thursday. Paul helped set up a Pipeline/Helper training class with Operating engineers local 701 that was canceled due to the COVID virus. We will have the class when the pandemic and scheduling allow. We thank Paul for his efforts and wish him well in his upcoming retirement.

### **Gas Distribution**

Negotiations continue. Scheduling with the COVID emergency has made meetings challenging. We agreed to extend negotiations through 5/15/20 with the same language as the last MOU. [3-30-2020 MOU](#)

### **Elections**

Oregon Primary ballots are out. Please Vote! Click links for [PAC committee recommendations](#) and [Oregon AFL-CIO Endorsements](#).

## **Training**

Training is sending a communication out soon on Journeyman training classes for BCD credit.

## **Student Veteran Coronavirus Response Act of 2020**

We have at least 34 Apprentices who could receive help. [Click Here](#)

## **Intel**

Depending on social distancing and furlough timing, we anticipate an additional 200-300 Journeymen and Apprentice hires in the coming months.

Our contractors are inquiring about second shifts and may start soon at Intel to help with social distancing.

## **COVID-19 Lockdown Status**

- **Oregon**

[Oregon Governors Press Release 5/1/20](#)

[Framework Presentation](#)

## **COVID-19 Lockdown Status**-continued

- **Washington**

[Washington Executive Order](#)

[Washington Extension of Original Order](#)

[Washington Detailed List of "Essential" Businesses](#)

[Washington Federal Guidelines \(incorporated into Executive Order\)](#)

[Washington Additional Guidance](#)

[Washington Guidance on Resumption of Construction Projects](#)

- **California**

[California Executive Order](#)

[California List of "Essential" Businesses](#)

With the talk now about the next steps to start loosening the restrictions we are seeing these restrictions will be slowly easing as each state looks for ways to address the differing conditions they face. This week we saw some help for members that are facing the decision to buy Cobra given longer to make that decision. We are actively asking our representatives in congress to give people financial help when facing this tough choice during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Again, thank you for your patience we are working remotely in most cases with minimal staffing to follow the states guidelines at the main office. This may at times causes us to miss calls and it is challenging to get them all returned. If we haven't returned your call, please try us again your calls are important to us.

In Solidarity,

Lou A. Christian