



Local 310 L

Steve Vonk
President

3/19/2020

Sisters and Brothers,

As most of you know by now Bridgestone/Firestone has made the difficult decision to close the Des Moines plant for a two week period starting this Sunday March 22nd at 6:00 am and returning on Monday April 6 in order to try to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This shutdown includes all manufacturing facilities in North America and South America. As of this time there has not been a documented case of COVID-19 in the factory. USW Local 310L has been in constant contact with the Des Moines plant management group in regards to this situation. All teammates affected by this two week shutdown will be eligible for unemployment benefits. In addition, The Company has stated that **ALL** teammates will be eligible for Subpay. There are currently 220 employees with less than 3 years seniority that would otherwise not be eligible for Subpay. For those of you who don't know Subpay is the amount added to your unemployment benefit that together adds up to 80% of your pay. We applaud the Company for this decision.

USW Local 310L will remain open to assist our members with the unemployment sign up and sub pay forms or for any other business that may arise. We have been working diligently to iron out all the details on these issues. There have several questions regarding your healthcare benefits. Nothing will change in regards to your benefits. Premiums will be deducted from your Subpay check. We will continue to update our Facebook page as soon as possible, and we will post details on the process of how and when to sign up for unemployment and file for SUB.

Please call the Union Hall at 515-288-9547 with any questions.

In Solidarity,
Steve Vonk

President USW Local 310L

United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union

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