

District 12

Robert LaVenture
District Director

Chris Youngmark
Assistant to the Director

April 29, 2014

Dear Sisters and Brothers

Following Governor Inslee's announcement today that he will move forward with a program to reduce carbon emissions in Washington, I am writing to let you know that District 12 is fully engaged on this issue on behalf of our membership and union.

In particular, I wanted you to know that last week, District 12 assistant to the director Chris Youngmark met with the Governor's leadership team to communicate the importance of working with our union throughout this process – and of considering potential economic impacts on USW industries. In addition, Chris was able to describe the effective strategies our union has used to weigh in on California's comprehensive climate legislation. Following that meeting, Chris was invited to represent District 12 on the Governor's Carbon Emissions Reduction Taskforce, which will meet monthly through the remainder of the year and provide recommendations on the design and implementation of a carbon emission reduction program.

I also wanted to let you know that the district is setting up educational briefings on the Governor's carbon emissions program. These briefings will be offered in at least two different Washington state locations later this Spring or early summer. Each will:

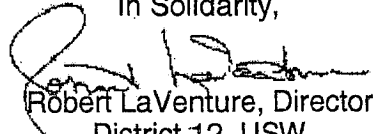
- Address the state's overall climate and energy agenda, including both environmental and economic benefits – as well as challenges and how USW can effectively engage;
- Describe how the Governor's plan connects with other programs in Oregon, California and British Columbia; and
- Explore specific proposals, including an expected standard that would require fuels produced and sold in Washington to be 10 percent less carbon-intensive in 2020 than they were in 2010.

Briefings will be conducted in partnership with USW's Tony Mazzocchi Center for Health, Safety and Environmental Education, with the BlueGreen Alliance (of which USW is a founding member), and in coordination with USW's legislative department. Look for an invitation with specific dates and locations in the next couple of weeks.

Finally, I wanted you to know that the district will closely track regulatory and legislative developments related to the Governor's carbon reduction program. As part of this effort, we will relay news and provide analysis about important developments, using our district web site and email alerts, as needed.

Again, look for the invitation to the two briefings – coming soon. I urge your attendance at these important informational sessions.

In Solidarity,



Robert LaVenture, Director
District 12, USW

Cc: Chris Youngmark
Dave Foster
Jim Young
Roxanne Brown
Jim Frederick
Kim Nibarger
Gaylan Prescott
Steve Powers
Ryan Meyhoff
Ron Rodgers
Jim Kilborn