NOTICE OF ENDANGERED STATUS
FOR THE
PENSION FUND LOCAL 96 - I.B.E.W.

To: All Participants and Beneficiaries

As you may know, the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA) has added requirements for measuring the financial health of multiemployer plans such as ours.

Starting with the 2008 Plan year, the PPA requires that a Pension Fund's actuary determine annually the Fund's status under these new rules and to certify that status to the IRS and the Trustees (Plan sponsor). It is important to note that if the Fund's status for a Plan year is in "endangered" ("yellow zone") or "critical" ("red zone") status, the Trustees must notify all Plan participants in writing of this certification and take corrective action to restore the financial health of the Plan.

Yellow Zone Status

This letter will serve as the Notice that on September 28, 2011 our Pension Fund's actuary determined and certified that the Fund is in "endangered" or yellow zone status for the 2011 - 2012 Plan year. This determination was made because as of July 1, 2011 the Plan's funded percentage of 68.7%, based on the PPA's funding measures, is less than 80%. The 68.7% funded level was determined by dividing $36,038,054, the Fund's actuarial value of assets as of July 1, 2011, by $52,467,271, the total unit credit accrued liability. Please note that these amounts are based off a projection of the July 1, 2010 actuarial valuation, and may change slightly once the July 1, 2011 valuation is completed.

Funding Improvement Plan

The PPA also requires that any pension fund in the yellow zone adopt a "Funding Improvement Plan" (FIP). The FIP is an action plan designed to significantly increase a Plan's funding percentage and to avoid any accumulated funding deficiency. The FIP was adopted by the Trustees on May 13, 2009. The FIP included contribution increases on July 1, 2010 and July 1, 2011, and has been funded. You have a right to receive a copy of the FIP from the Plan.

Please note that the PPA requires that our Plan's funding status be reviewed and certified annually and notices like this one, explaining the outcome, will be sent each year until our Plan is no longer "endangered" or in the yellow zone. There are several variables beyond our control which our advisors will monitor yearly, including market volatility and changes in employment levels, which could affect the Plan's status and the Trustees' corrective actions in the future.

We understand that legally required notices like this one can create anxiety and concern about the Pension Fund's future. The Board of Trustees remains confident that the Fund will continue to provide our participants and their families with secure retirement benefits.

In the event you have questions or would like additional information, you may contact

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Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees
October, 2011

cc: Central Mass Chapter, NECA Inc
Contributing Employers
US Department of Labor
US Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

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