



October 29, 2009

Strike at Erie Thames Power Resolved

After 18 weeks on the picket lines, the strike at Erie Thames Power was settled on Friday, October 23rd with the outside employees ratifying the new 4-year collective agreement with a vote of 77% acceptance.

This follows agreement reached one week earlier for the inside members who ratified by a vote of 70%.

Outside employees returned to work on Tuesday, October 27th.

The settlement is a good one with 3% increases in each year and special increases in each year for most of the outside classifications. Return to work language includes a minimum 17 week period of continued employment for employees slated to be laid off as a result of lost opportunities for contract work with other entities during this long and bitter dispute. The language also includes an extended recall period of 2 years and protection of those recall rights against the use of contractors.

The local Bargaining Committee, Strike Committee and picketing members deserve our thanks, respect and congratulations for a job well done in very difficult circumstances.

PWU members from around the province deserve thanks as well for their assistance in bolstering the picket lines in solidarity with their striking brothers and sisters.

Don MacKinnon
President