

Reykjavík 15.7.2010

Members of United Steelworkers Local 9423 Hawesville, Kentucky USA

EFNI: Social dumping and corporate greed

Dear Comrades.

Be assured in your struggle for a fair contract at Century's Aluminium smelter at Hawesville, that today you stand in the frontline of the labor movement's struggle to maintain and improve the living standard of our members against increased greed of international corporations that use social dumping as a tool to suppress workers all over the world.

In Iceland, Century Aluminium already operates one smelter and is currently planning another one, if and when negotioations for the electricity needed, are concluded.

I have already informed our president of The Federation of General and Special Workers Unions in Iceland of your struggle in Hawesville, as the majority of workers in the aluminium industry in Iceland belong to unions in the Federation. We will raise the issue in our next executive board meeting as well as in the next meeting of the central committee of The Icelandic Federation of Labor.

Stand strong in your struggle for a fair contract and do not give in to demands by the company – demands that undermine the welfare of your families. Companies that can afford to increase management bonuses should at least honour their workers by not undermining the terms of contracts negotiated in the past.

We will do our utmost to prevent Iceland's labor market to be used as a "social dumping ground" for companies to use as a bargaining tool while attacking worker's rights in other countries.

In solidarity

Sverrir Albertsson Head of Section Industrial Section Federation of General and Special Workers of Iceland (SGS)