



LOCAL 1-2 UPDATE

LOCAL 1-2, USPG AND NRG LOCKED IN TALKS, BOTH CONTRACTS EXPIRE JUNE 21 WITH STRIKE AUTORIZATIONS

James T. Slevin, President of Local 1-2, NY, UWUA, AFL-CIO announced today that the Local 1-2 contract talks with power providers US Power Gen and NRG were at a critical point as the bargaining agreements enter their final week.

Earlier this month Local 1-2 Members for both units had voted overwhelmingly to provide strike authorization when their respective contracts expire at midnight June 21.

“Right now we are in talks with both companies,” Slevin said, adding that should a strike occur in the summer months, it could strain the power grid during the hottest days.

Slevin said the current struggle during the talks with both employers revolved around work practices and benefits. He added that the Union had placed a call to the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to assist the parties in resolving any remaining disputes. Slevin expects mediators to become involved as the June 21 deadline loomed.

“Con Edison just forecast record usage for the summer of 2014 and with the combined 2677 MW that these companies produce, it would be a significant percentage of Con Ed’s load during the hottest days,” Slevin said.

USPG owns and operates the Astoria generating station in Queens as well as the Gowanus gas turbine facility and the Narrows gas turbine facility, both in Brooklyn, while NRG operates one gas fired turbine and one oil fired turbine in Astoria. With the combined output of both companies at risk, Con Ed would have to look elsewhere for electric capacity to meet its forecast demand in excess of 13,214 MW set in July 2013.

“We want the public to be aware that these highly profitable energy producers are in serious talks with Local 1-2 and to understand that the men and women who keep these plants operating are only seeking a decent, fair contract.” Slevin said.

Approximately 120 Members of Local 1-2 are employed by USPG and NRG.