



LOCAL 1-2 UPDATE

July 16, 2012

Statement by Harry J. Farrell, President of Local 1-2 UWUA:

Once again, as we enter the third week of being locked out of our jobs, it's sad for me and my members that Con Edison is resorting to lies, innuendo and half-truths, now that it has placed 8,500 New York families on the back of the taxpayers, by telling our elected officials, the 9 million New Yorkers in its service area and the media that it is bargaining in good faith and that the Union better settle for a contract that reduces our wages, increases our health care contributions 100% and takes away our pensions.

We did not strike. Con Edison threw us on the street. I want it to be perfectly clear that Local 1-2 chose not to call a strike and Con Edison, without any warning, turned the key and locked us out in the wee hours of July 1. This action we believe places the public in great peril.

Con Edison made a cynical, calculated decision to lock out its professional workforce and rely instead on geriatric office workers, retired older workers, out of state renegades and office managers to keep the electric, gas and steam grids operating. That the grid has held so far is testament only to the men and women of Local 1-2 who built, operate and maintain the largest urban energy system in the U.S.

Con Ed Chairman Kevin Burke has enriched himself by millions and millions of dollars on the back of every ratepayer Con Ed serves. He received an 82% pay raise since 2010, and the company made \$1 billion profit in 2011. All the while it is a regulated monopoly supposedly in place to provide a public service.

Our question to hard-working New Yorkers is where is the outrage? Where are the officials you have elected to serve you at the city, state and federal levels of government? Con Ed is a public monopoly. Heat and light in the 21st Century, we believe, is a human right.

We believe this is the largest lock out of working men and women in U.S. history.

We know that all we ask is a fair contract, nothing more. We ask all New Yorkers to add their voices to our plight.

UTILITY WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA
LOCAL 1-2, AFL-CIO