## NOTICE OF CRITICAL STATUS FOR 2012 FOR THE LOCAL 138 PENSION TRUST FUND

This is to inform you that on March 31, 2012 the actuary for the Local 138 Pension Trust Fund certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and also to the Fund's sponsor, that the Fund is in critical status for its year beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012. Federal law requires that you receive this notice.

<u>Critical Status</u>: The Fund is considered to be in critical status because it has funding or liquidity problems, or both. More specifically, the Fund's actuary determined that the Fund is projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency within the next four plan years.

Rehabilitation Plan and Possible Reduction in Benefits: Federal law requires each pension fund in critical status to adopt a rehabilitation plan aimed at restoring its financial health. As a result, the Trustees adopted the Fund's Rehabilitation Plan on November 25, 2008 and also revised the Rehabilitation Plan in November 2010. (You have a right to receive a copy of the Rehabilitation Plan on request.) As part of this process, the benefit formula was changed effective January 1, 2009 and you were notified of this in December 2008. Early retirement benefits were eliminated for former participants April 1, 2012 and death benefits were limited to surviving spouses. You were recently notified of this. Further, the law permits a pension fund in critical status to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called "Adjustable Benefits" as part of a rehabilitation plan. If the Trustees of the Local 138 Pension Trust Fund determine that further benefit reductions are necessary, you will receive a separate notice in the future identifying and explaining the effect of those reductions. Any reduction of Adjustable Benefits will not reduce the participant's basic accrued benefit payable at normal retirement. Reductions in Adjustable Benefits may apply to participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date was on or after April 10, 2008. In addition, effective April 10, 2008, the Pension Fund is not permitted to make payments in excess of the monthly amount paid as a single life annuity while it is in critical status.

<u>Adjustable Benefits</u>: The Fund offers the following Adjustable Benefits which may be reduced or eliminated, if not in pay status as of April 10, 2008, as part of the Rehabilitation Plan: disability benefits, retirement-type subsidies and subsidized early retirement benefits.

Employer Surcharge: The law requires that all contributing employers pay to the Fund a surcharge to help correct the Fund's financial situation. The amount of the surcharge is equal to a percentage of the amount an employer is otherwise required to contribute to the Fund under the applicable collective bargaining agreement. A 5% surcharge was applicable in the initial critical year (2008), starting with contributions due on or after May 10, 2008. A 10% surcharge is applicable for each succeeding calendar year thereafter in which the Fund is in critical status. As a result, starting January 2009, contributing employers are paying a 10% surcharge which will remain in effect until the employer adopts a collective bargaining agreement that is consistent with the Rehabilitation Plan.

Where to Get More Information: For more information about this Notice, you may contact:

Board of Trustees Local 138 Pension Trust Fund 2151 Marion Place Baldwin, New York 11510 Telephone: (516) 378-2011