# INotice of Seriously Endangered Status For Plumbing & Pipe Fitting Industry Local 219 Pension Plan

This is to inform you that on July 29, 2011 the Plan Actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and to the Plan Sponsor that the Plan is in seriously endangered status for the plan year beginning May 1, 2011. Federal law requires that you receive this notice. In the future you will receive an annual update of this status and the progress the Plan is making towards the goals described below.

#### **Seriously Endangered Status**

The Plan is considered to be in seriously endangered status because it satisfies both of the following criteria:

- 1. <u>Funded percentage less than 80%</u> The Plan's actuary determined that the Plan's funded percentage is 51.3% on May 1, 2011. The "funded percentage" is the fraction of earned benefits that could be funded with existing Fund assets.
- Projected accumulated funding deficiency within the current or next 6 plan years The Plan's actuary
  projects that, if no further action is taken, the Plan will have an accumulated funding deficiency for the
  plan year ending April 30, 2018. Note, "accumulated funding deficiency" means that contributions
  would be insufficient to satisfy Federal requirements, it does <u>not</u> mean that the Fund would become
  bankrupt or run out of money.

As required by law, the Plan Actuary's certification includes only contribution rate increases that have been codified in collective bargaining or participation agreements.

### **Funding Improvement Plan**

Federal law requires pension plans in seriously endangered status to adopt a funding improvement plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the Plan. Since this plan became endangered as of May 1, 2008, a funding improvement plan was previously set in place to begin May 1, 2010. The funding improvement plan requires that the Plan's funded percentage improve at least one-third of the way to 100% over a 13-year period. The target for this Plan under the law is a funded percentage of 67.3% by 2023. The Plan must also meet the Federal minimum funding requirements during this 13-year period. Based on our most current actuarial projections, we are well on track to meet or exceed these benchmarks.

#### **Future Experience and Possible Adjustments**

The funding improvement plan is based on a number of assumptions about future experience and may need to be adjusted in the future if such assumptions are not met. Additional contribution rate increases and/or reductions in the rate at which benefits are earned may be needed if the Fund were to suffer asset returns below the expected 8.00% in the 2011-12 plan year or later, a drop in the hours worked, or poor experience from other sources. If, at some point in time, the Trustees determine that further adjustments are necessary, you will receive a separate notice identifying and explaining the effect of those changes.

## **Commitment to Continued Improvement**

At this point, the Trustees anticipate that the Fund will eventually emerge from seriously endangered status and continue to see improved funded percentages. The Trustees maintain their commitment to providing a retirement benefit on which you can rely to pay a lifetime benefit that will play a significant role in your overall retirement planning.

#### Where to Get More Information

You have a right to receive a copy of the funding improvement plan. To receive a copy of the latest version, you may contact the Local 219 Fringe Benefit Office at 33 Fitch Boulevard, Austintown, OH, 44515-2202 or by telephone at (800) 435-2388.