# MICHIGAN ELECTRICAL EMPLOYEES' PENSION FUND

April 25, 2012

SENT VIA EMAIL criticalstatusnotice@dol.gov

United States Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administrators Public Disclosure Room; N-1513 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20210

RE:

MICHIGAN ELECTRICAL EMPLOYEES' PENSION FUND

EIN #38-6233977 PLAN #001

## Dear Representative:

Attached is a copy of the Notice of Endangered Status on behalf of the Michigan Electrical Employee's Pension Fund for the Plan Year Beginning January 1, 2012.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please feel free to contact me, or in my absence, Robert Merrick at (517) 327-2139.

Sincerely,

James E. Schreiber Administrative Manager

JES/ls

attachment xc: Ken

Kendra Ankney

Times Schreber

Paul Bullock

Robert Merrick

Bryan Stulz

Derek Watkins

Kyle Weaver

## MICHIGAN ELECTRICAL EMPLOYEES' PENSION FUND

## April 2012

## Notice of Endangered Status For Michigan Electrical Employees' Pension Plan

This is to inform you that on March 30, 2012, the Fund's actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury and to the Board of Trustees (the plan sponsor) that the Fund is in endangered status for the Plan Year beginning January 1, 2012. In the future, you will receive an annual update of the Fund's status and the progress it is making toward the goals described below.

#### **Endangered Status**

The Fund is considered to be in endangered status because there is a projected accumulated funding deficiency within the current or next six Plan Years. If no further action is taken, the Fund will have an accumulated funding deficiency for the Plan Year ending December 31, 2017. A projected funding deficiency means contributions are insufficient to satisfy Federal requirements and is a sign that the anticipated liabilities of the Fund are outpacing its assets. A projected funding deficiency does not mean that the Fund would become bankrupt or run out of money. The Fund's actuary determined that the funded percentage was 83% on January 1, 2012. The funded percentage is the fraction of earned benefits that could be funded with existing assets.

## **Funding Improvement Plan**

The Fund's prior funding improvement plan was satisfied when the Fund emerged from endangered status in 2011. As a result of this certification, the Fund is once again in endangered status and Federal law requires the Fund to adopt a funding improvement plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the Plan. The funding improvement plan must be adopted by the Board of Trustees on or before November 26, 2012, and will require that the funded percentage improve at least 33% of the way to 100% during the "funding improvement period". The funding improvement period will be from January 1, 2014 through the earlier of December 31, 2023 or the date the Fund's Actuary certifies that the Fund has emerged from endangered status. The Fund must also meet the Federal minimum funding requirements by avoiding funding deficiencies during the funding improvement period.

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

The funding improvement plan will be based on a number of assumptions about future experience and may need to be adjusted if those assumptions are not met. Contribution rate increases and/or benefit reductions may be needed if those assumptions are not met. You will receive a separate notice identifying and explaining any benefit changes before they are made.

#### **Commitment to Continued Improvement**

The Board of Trustees and Bargaining Parties have taken steps to make contribution increases. The goal of the Board of Trustees is that the Fund will emerge from endangered status and continue to see improved funded percentages. The Trustees remain committed to the proper funding of your pension benefits and assure you that they will take appropriate actions to meet this goal.

#### Where to Get More Information

You have a right to receive a copy of the funding improvement plan adopted by the Board of Trustees. To receive a copy or request additional information regarding the Fund, you may contact the Board of Trustees of the Michigan Electrical Employees' Pension Fund at (517) 321-7502 or 6525 Centurion Drive, Lansing, Michigan 48917-9275.