

May 15, 2013

Dear Members of the Single Bargaining Unit at PWCS:

The United Steelworkers (USW) is outraged over the union busting by Port Waratah Coal Services (PWCS) in Australia. Union busting is unacceptable in any part of the world. Just as Australian unions came to our aid in our epic and ultimately successful struggle against Rio Tinto in Canada, we will be there to support our sisters and brothers at the Maritime Union of Australia, the Transport Workers Union, the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union, the Electrical Trades Union, and the Australian Workers Union.

We experienced first-hand how Rio Tinto sought to break our union by getting rid of unionized workers and replacing them with nonunion workers at half the pay. However, we also experienced an unparalleled victory over this company with global union solidarity. For this reason, we are confident that we will win this struggle. We must send a clear message to PWCS, the coal operators, and all of the companies in the supply chain that this union-busting must end or risk facing a global trade union campaign on many fronts.

The USW calls on PWCS to settle the labour dispute with the single bargaining unit representing all of the unions in a manner that guarantees job security and the right to union protection enshrined in the Enterprise Agreement.

The USW extends our solidarity and support to the all the union members involved in this dispute to fight these changes. We will not stand by and allow PWCS to continue this attack on workers and their families.

In solidarity,

Ken Neumann, National Director

cc: Hennie du Plooy, CEO of PWCS, P.O. Box 57, Carrington, NSW 2294, Australia