

MEMORANDUM

March 15, 2010

TO: All IBEW Local Union Business Managers
All NECA Chapter Managers

Recent events in our own country and around the world make it clear that when a disaster strikes restoration of electrical service is critical. Last year we took the first step in making IBEW/NECA line contractors the utilities' first choice in restoring service damaged by natural disasters and other emergencies by adopting the National Outside Construction Emergency Response Agreement.

The IBEW – NECA Joint Transmission and Storm Task Force realized the need for our contractors to meet the utilities growing demand for construction and maintenance services goes beyond disaster response. IBEW/NECA line contractors must be able to efficiently bring their technical and human resources into play to repair, strengthen, and expand our nation's electrical grid in a competitive, efficient, and cost-effective way in order to preserve the organized industry's share of this vast and growing market.

The IBEW – NECA Joint Transmission and Storm Task Force after a series of earnest discussions and negotiations, which highlighted the need for our employers to maintain an intact core of IBEW employees as transmission projects are completed across a number of local union jurisdictions while at the same time preserving the autonomy of those local unions, have agreed on a new *National Outside Portability Agreement*.

This new agreement "shall apply to all outside line transmission construction work as follows:

"For each transmission job or project of 100kv or above, the employer may bring in the first ten workers employed by the employer under portability, provided they have been employed for at least two weeks prior to the start of the job. Subsequent employees shall be employed on a one to one basis with the first from the local union where the work is being performed (site), followed by an employee of the employer and so forth and so on."

This agreement does not affect the other terms and conditions of the local agreements where the work is being performed. It does recognize and address the growing influence of the non-union in the transmission industry and changes in how this work is and must be done to be competitive.

The agreement is effective March 15, 2010. We are confident that both local unions and signatory contractors will work cooperatively and fairly to implement this new agreement and build the industry.

Sincerely,



John M. Grau
CEO, NECA

Fraternally,



Edwin D. Hill
International President, IBEW