



LOCAL 1-2 UPDATE

LOCAL 1-2 MEMBERS OVERWHELMINGLY RATIFY NEW COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

On Tuesday July 29, 2008, the members of Local 1-2 overwhelmingly ratified a new Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement with Con Edison.

THE NUMBERS

<u>Members Voting</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
4,672	3,991	681

This represents slightly over an 85% plurality, one of the highest ratification percentages in the history of our Union. The following are the ratification percentages of our most recent contracts:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Yes</u>	
1992	83%	
1996	92%	(highest % ever)
2000	63%	
2004	55%	
2008	85%	

Your Union thanks the members who voted for their participation in the democratic process and for your unwavering support during the Collective Bargaining process. **The retention of our Defined Benefits Plan could not have been accomplished without the support of you, our members.**

On July 17, 2008 our members employed at USPowerGen ratified their new Collective Bargaining Agreement by over 80% - four (4) to one (1). This contract was negotiated simultaneously with the Con Edison contract. It expired on June 23, 2008, five (5) days before the expiration of the Con Edison contract.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE ISSUES REPORT ON DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLANS

About half of employers with defined-benefit pension plans have frozen one or more of those plans, putting the retirement incomes of millions at risk, according to a government report issued on July 21, 2008. The Government Accountability Office said more than 3 million people covered by its study, which represented about one-fifth of all participants in single-employer defined-benefit plans, are affected by freezes. **Most sponsors with frozen plans have set up retirement savings alternatives, such as 401(k) plans, that may offset some losses, but “a freeze generally implies a reduction in anticipated future retirement benefits,” the GAO said.** Local 1-2 successfully fought off Con Edison’s effort to undermine your defined benefit pension.