To:    Department of Labor and Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Re:     Interested Parties Notice – Pension Protection Act

Date:  April 30, 2010

Enclosed are copies of the Interested Parties Notice for the following six multi-employer pension plans:

1. Laborers Local 17 Pension Fund      EIN 14-6025195
2. Joint Pension Local No. 164 IBEW    EIN 22-6031199
3. IBEW Local 237 Pension Fund         EIN 16-6094914
4. Local 298 Pension Fund              EIN 11-6049445
5. Teamsters Local 445 Pension Fund    EIN 13-1864489
6. Local 1783 I.B.E.W Pension Fund     EIN 13-1889643

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Frank Iannucci, MAAA
Enrolled Actuary
This is to inform you that on March 30, 2010, the Local 298 Pension Fund’s actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and also to the plan sponsor, that the plan will be in critical status for the plan year beginning January 1, 2010. Federal law requires that you receive this notice.

Critical Status
The plan is considered to be in critical status because it has funding or liquidity problems, or both. More specifically, the Local 298 Pension Fund’s (Pension Fund) actuary determined that the Local 298 Pension Fund is projected to be at least 65% funded but that the Pension Fund is projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency before the fiscal year ending December 31, 2013.

Rehabilitation Plan and Possibility of Reduction in Benefits
Federal law requires pension plans in critical status to adopt a rehabilitation plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the Pension Fund. The law permits pension plans to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called “adjustable benefits” as part of a rehabilitation plan. If the trustees of the Pension Fund determine that benefit reductions are necessary, you will receive a separate notice in the future identifying and explaining the effect of those reductions. Any reduction of adjustable benefits will not reduce the level of a participant’s basic benefit payable at normal retirement. In addition, the reductions may only apply to participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is on or after April 30, 2010. But you should know that whether or not the plan reduces adjustable benefits in the future, effective as of August 30, 2010 the Pension Fund is not permitted to pay lump sum benefits (or any other payment in excess of the monthly amount paid under a single life annuity) while it is in critical status.

Rehabilitation Plan
Federal law requires pension plans in critical status to adopt a rehabilitation plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the Pension Fund. This is the first year the Pension Fund has been projected to be in critical status. The law permits pension plans to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called “adjustable benefits” as part of a rehabilitation plan. If the Trustees of the Pension Fund determine that benefit reductions are necessary, you will receive a separate notice in the future identifying and explaining the effect of those reductions. Any reduction of adjustable benefits will not reduce the level of a participant’s basic benefit payable at normal retirement. In addition, the reductions may only apply to participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is on or after April 30, 2010.

Adjustable Benefits
The Pension Fund offers the following adjustable benefits which may be reduced or eliminated as part of any rehabilitation plan the Pension Fund may adopt:

- Early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy;
- Disability benefits;
- Benefit payment options other than a qualified joint-and survivor annuity (QJSA);

Employer Surcharge
The law requires that all contributing employers pay to the Pension Fund a surcharge to help correct the Pension Fund’s financial situation. The amount of the surcharge is equal to a percentage of the amount an employer is otherwise required to contribute to the Pension Fund under the applicable collective bargaining agreement. With some exceptions, a 5% surcharge is applicable in the initial critical year and a 10% surcharge is applicable for each succeeding plan year thereafter in which the plan is in critical status.

Where to Get More Information
For more information about this Notice, you may contact Joseph Giovinco, Fund Administrator at 516-825-1851 or at 201 W. Valley Stream Blvd., Valley Stream, NY 11580. You have a right to receive a copy of the rehabilitation plan from the plan.

Date: April 30, 2010