October 23, 2015

Participants, Beneficiaries, Participating Unions, and Contributing Employers:

The Pension Protection Act (PPA or Act) is intended to improve the financial condition of certain pension plans. The Act implemented several safeguards as well as notification requirements to share more information about a plan’s “financial health” with participants and others directly interested in the plan.

The Act requires that all pension plans be tested annually to determine how well they are funded. The Act established formal benchmarks for measuring a plan’s funding. Plans that are in endangered status (“Yellow Zone”) or critical status (“Red Zone”) must notify all plan participants, unions, and contributing employers of the plan’s status, as well as take corrective action to restore the plan’s financial health. Plans that are not in endangered or critical status are considered to be in the Green Zone.

**Plan's Status – Yellow Zone**

For the Plan Year beginning July 1, 2015, the Plan is less than 80% funded as certified by the Plan’s actuary. As a result, the Plan was categorized as being in endangered status (“Yellow Zone”) for the 2015 Plan Year.

**Funding Improvement Plan**

The Act requires that the Plan’s funding status be reviewed and certified annually, as the Plan’s financial condition generally fluctuates with changes in the economy. Consequently, you will receive a notice like this each year until the Plan is no longer in endangered status (“Yellow Zone”). We understand that legally-required notices like this one can create concern about the Plan’s future. While the “endangered” label is required by the PPA, we have been conferring with our actuaries and consultants for some time now to address these issues and continue to improve the Plan’s long-term financial stability. Improving the Plan’s funded status is our top priority, and we are committed to taking any actions necessary to ensure your core pension benefits will be there when you retire.

For more information about this Notice or the Pension Plan in general, please contact Kristina Guastaferri, Plan Administrator at the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Millmen Pension Fund, 12 East Erie Street, Chicago, IL 60611, (312) 787-9455.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees

*As required by law, this notice is being provided to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) and the Secretary of the Department of Labor.*