

EBSA/PUBLIC DISCLOSURE  
2017 MAY 30 PM 1:01

**Notice of Plan Status  
for  
Iron Workers District Council of Southern Ohio & Vicinity Pension Trust**

**EIN/PN 31-6038516/001**

May 31, 2017

Participants, Beneficiaries, Participating Unions, and Contributing Employers:

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA or Act), as amended by the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 (MPRA), is intended to improve the financial condition of 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.

Starting with the 2008 Plan Year, the Act requires that the Pension Trust be tested annually to determine how well it is funded. The Act established formal benchmarks for measuring a plan's funding. Plans that are in the yellow ("endangered"), orange ("seriously endangered"), or red ("critical" or "critical and declining") zones 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 yellow, orange, or red zone status are considered to be in the green zone.

**PLAN'S 2017 STATUS - YELLOW ZONE**

On May 1, 2017, the Pension Trust's actuary certified that, based on the Act's funding measures, the Pension Trust was categorized as being in endangered (yellow zone) status for the 2017 Plan Year, since the Trust is less than 80% funded. For the Plan Year beginning February 1, 2017, the Pension Trust was projected to be 73.2% funded.

**FUNDING IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

This is the tenth consecutive year the Pension Trust has been certified to be in either endangered status or seriously endangered status. To comply with the Act, the Trustees adopted a Funding Improvement Plan in 2008 designed to improve the Pension Trust's funded status and have made subsequent updates. Please note that, since the Pension Trust's financial condition generally fluctuates with changes in the economy, the Act requires that the Pension Trust's funding status be reviewed and certified annually, which means that you will receive a notice like this each year unless the Pension Trust is not in endangered, seriously endangered, critical, or critical and declining status.

For more information about this Notice or the Pension Trust in general, please contact the Pension Trust's Administrative Manager, Ms. Penny Brown.

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees

*This Notice is being provided as required under the Pension Protection Act of 2006, which requires that certain information regarding the Pension Plan's funding status be disclosed to individuals and parties interested in the Plan. As required by law, this Notice is being provided to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) and the Secretary of the Department of Labor.*

# Iron Workers District Council of Southern Ohio & Vicinity Pension Trust

## Explanation of Required Notices

May 31, 2017

**TO: PARTICIPANTS, BENEFICIARIES, AND CONTRIBUTING EMPLOYERS TO THE IRON WORKERS DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN OHIO & VICINITY PENSION TRUST**

As Trustees of the Iron Workers District Council of Southern Ohio & Vicinity Pension Trust (the Plan), we are committed to keeping you informed of the Plan's financial health. This letter provides an update on the Plan's status and describes two federally-mandated notices that are included in this package. The timing and content of these notices can be a little confusing, so we wanted to take the opportunity to give you a little background on them. **The bottom line is that the Pension Trust has improved its financial position since the investment decline of 2008-2009 and remains in position to pay all promised benefits.**

### *Annual Funding Notice*

The **Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA)** was enacted to improve the financial condition of and provide transparency on the financial state of pension plans. The PPA requires multiemployer pension plans like ours to have their financial status certified each year. Depending on the status, the plans are assigned a zone category:

- ❖ **"Green Zone"** pension plans are in good financial health
- ❖ **"Yellow Zone"** pension plans are considered "endangered"
- ❖ **"Orange Zone"** pension plans are considered "seriously endangered"
- ❖ **"Red Zone"** pension plans are considered "critical" or "critical and declining"

Trustees of plans in the "green zone" are not required to take any action. Trustees of plans in the "yellow," "orange," or "red" zones, however, are required to take corrective action to restore the financial health of their plans.
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The PPA also requires trustees of pension plans to comply with certain annual reporting requirements, including certifying their plan's financial condition. The attached **Annual Funding Notice** for the 2016 Plan Year for our Plan includes information regarding Plan assets and liabilities. This notice indicates that **our Plan was in endangered status, or the "Yellow Zone," for the 2016 Plan Year**, based on its financial condition as of February 1, 2016.

### *Notice of Plan Status*

The **Notice of Plan Status** is required for all plans in endangered, seriously endangered, critical, or critical and declining status. **As of February 1, 2017, our Plan has been certified as being in endangered status (Yellow Zone) for the 2017 Plan Year.** In accordance with the requirements of the PPA, the Trustees will have to review, and update if necessary, their Funding Improvement Plan. The purpose of the Funding Improvement Plan is to improve the financial status of the Plan. We have been working with our professional advisors for some time now to address the financial challenges the Plan is facing.

***In Closing***

Improving the Plan's funded status is a top priority, and we are committed to taking necessary action to ensure that you will receive the benefits under the Plan for which you are eligible when you retire. We will continue to monitor the financial markets closely and manage the Plan in a manner that will preserve its fiscal health. Please take some time to review the enclosed notices. If you have any questions, please contact the Pension Trust's Administrative Manager, Ms. Penny Brown.

Sincerely,

*The Board of Trustees*

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