

SHERROD BROWN
OHIO

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
APPROPRIATIONS
BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
February 16, 2012

Roy Armes
Chief Executive Officer
Cooper Tire and Rubber Company
701 Lima Avenue
Findlay, OH 45840

Dear Mr. Armes:

I was encouraged to learn of the agreement reached between Cooper Tire and Rubber and the United Steelworkers in Texarkana, Arkansas. I am sure that the recent agreement provides a sense of stability and economic security for both the company and its Arkansas workforce. In this spirit, I ask that you work diligently to reach a fair agreement in Findlay that will allow the workers to return to their jobs.

In January, I met with some of the locked-out tire workers in Findlay. They shared with me their proud history at Cooper Tire. Many of them come from a long line of family workers who have devoted much of their lives to making Cooper Tire and Rubber the successful tire brand that it is today. I am confident you will agree that their loyalty and commitment to the company is unwavering.

Cooper Tire and Rubber has provided thousands of hard-working Ohioans with the ability to establish roots in the Findlay area, raise their families, and send their children and grandchildren to school. As a good corporate citizen, Cooper Tire has stepped up when adverse situations have arisen to help the entire Findlay community recover. It is also important to remember the sacrifices that your workers have previously made in order to help Cooper Tire maintain its Findlay operations.

It is in this spirit that I urge you to work earnestly towards an agreement that brings the workers back to the production line. Failure to do so will not only continue to bring setbacks to the workers and their families, but will also increase unnecessary tension in the community. As Ohio manufacturing continues its path of recovery, I am sure that both the management and the union look forward to the day when the workers can return to the jobs they have performed so well for so many years.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are any ways I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

Cc: Robert Ditillo, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service