

Operating Engineers Local 825 Fund Service Facilities

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ANNUAL FUNDING NOTICE For

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 825 PENSION PLAN

Introduction

This notice includes important information about the funding status of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825 Pension Plan ("the Plan") and general information about the benefit payments guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC"), a federal insurance agency. All traditional pension plans (called "defined benefit pension plans") must provide this notice every year regardless of their funding status. This notice does not mean that the Plan is terminating. It is provided for informational purposes, and you are not required to respond in any way. This notice is for the Plan Year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 ("2023 Plan Year").

How Well Funded Is The Plan

Under federal law, the Plan must report how well it is funded by using a measure called the "funded percentage." This percentage is obtained by dividing the Plan's assets by its liabilities on the Valuation Date for the Plan Year at issue. In general, the higher the percentage, the better funded the plan. The Plan's funded percentage for the 2023 Plan Year and each of the two preceding plan years is set forth in the chart below, along with a statement of the value of the Plan's assets and liabilities for the same period.

Funded Percentage					
	2023	2022	2021		
Valuation	7/1/2023	7/1/2022	7/1/2021		
Date					
Funded	98.4%	95.4%	93.5%		
Percentage					
Value of	\$1,066,097,799	\$1,017,620,153	\$964,027,182		
Assets					
Value of	\$1,083,487,391	\$1,066,236,121	\$1,031,252,220		
Liabilities					

Year-End Fair Market Value of Assets

The asset values in the chart above are measured as of the Valuation Date for the plan year and are actuarial values. Because market values can fluctuate daily based on factors in the marketplace, such as changes in the stock market, pension law allows plans to use actuarial values that are designed to smooth out those fluctuations for funding purposes. The assets values below are market values and are measured as of the last day of the plan year, rather than as of the Valuation Date. Substituting the market value of assets for the actuarial value used in the above chart would show a clearer picture of a plan's funded status as of the Valuation Date. The fair market value of the Plan's assets as of the last day of the 2023 Plan Year and each of the two preceding Plan Years is shown in the following table:

	06/30/2024	06/30/2023	06/30/2022
Fair Market	\$1,107,594,348	\$1,035,517,862	\$985,597,590
Value of			
Assets*			

*Note: The asset value as of June 30, 2024 is a preliminary number since the Plan does not yet have audited asset values as of that date. As such, this asset value is subject to confirmation when the audit for the 2023 Plan Year is finalized.

Endangered, Critical or Critical and Declining Status

Under federal pension law a plan generally will be considered to be in "endangered" status if, at the beginning of the plan year, the funded percentage of the plan is less than 80 percent, in "critical" status if the percentage is less than 65 percent (other factors may also apply) or in "critical and declining status" if it is in critical status and is projected to become insolvent (run out of money to pay benefits) within 15 years (or within 20 years if a special rule applies). If a pension plan enters endangered status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a funding improvement plan. Similarly, if a pension plan enters critical status or critical and declining status, the trustees of the plan are required to adopt a benchmarks for pension plans to improve their funding status over a specified period of time. The plan sponsor of a plan in critical and declining status may apply for approval to amend the plan to reduce current and future payment obligations to participants and beneficiaries.

The Plan's actuary has determined that the Plan was not in endangered, critical or critical and declining status for the 2023 Plan Year.

Participant Information

The total number of participants and beneficiaries in the Plan as of the Plan's valuation date was 11,304. Of this number, 5,237 were active participants, 4,397 were retired or separated from service and receiving benefits, and 1,670 were retired or separated from service and entitled to future benefits.

Funding & Investment Policies

Every pension plan must have a procedure for establishing a funding policy to carry out plan objectives. A funding policy relates to the level of assets needed to pay for benefits promised under the plan currently and over the years. The funding policy of the Plan is to meet the requirements of federal pension plan law by having sufficient assets to pay for benefits accrued under the Plan.

Once money is contributed to the Plan, the money is invested by Plan officials called fiduciaries, who make specific investments in accordance with the Plan's investment policy. Generally speaking, an investment policy is a written statement that provides the fiduciaries who are responsible for plan investments with guidelines or general instructions concerning investment management decisions. The investment policy is, generally, to invest the assets of the Plan among several asset classes and within permitted allocation ranges. The long-term goal of the Plan is to: (1) generate a net of fee return in excess of the Plan's actuarial assumed rate of return within accepted levels of volatility, (2) maintain sufficient liquidity to fund benefit payments, and (3) preserve the principal value of the Plan.

Under the Plan's investment policy, the Plan's assets were allocated in a diversified group of asset classes with allocations among the following categories of investments, as of the end of the 2023 Plan Year. These allocations are percentages of total assets:

Asset Allocations		Percentage*
1.	Cash (Interest bearing and non-interest bearing)	2.27%
2.	U.S. Government securities	7.09%
3.	Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):	
	Preferred	6.49%
	All other	4.59%
4.	Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):	
	Preferred	0.00%
	Common	32.79%
5.	Partnership/joint venture interests	24.38%
6.	Real estate (other than employer real property)	
7.	Loans (other than to participants)	
8.	Participant loans	
9.	Value of interest in common/collective trusts	7.01%
10.	Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	4.22%
11.	Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	
12.	Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1.57%
13.	Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	8.98%
14.	Value of funds held in insurance co. general account (unallocated contracts)	
15.	Employer-related investments:	
	Employer Securities	
	Employer real property	
16.	Buildings and other property used in plan operation	
17.	Other	0.61%

*The asset percentages are preliminary and subject to confirmation when the yearly audit is finalized for the 2023 Plan Year.

For information about the Plan's investment in any of the following types of investments as described in the chart above – common/collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trust investment accounts, or 103-12 investment entities – contact the Plan Administrator, Sherry Viso, Operating Engineers Local No. 825 Fund Service Facilities, 65 Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081 at (973) 671-6800.

Right to Request a Copy of the Annual Report

A pension plan is required to file with the US Department of Labor an annual report called the Form 5500 that contains financial and other information about the plan. Copies of the annual report are available from the US Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration's Public Disclosure Room at 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room N-1513, Washington, DC 20210, or by calling 202.693.8673. For 2009 and subsequent plan years, you may obtain an electronic copy of the Plan's annual report by going to <u>www.efast.dol.gov</u> and using the Form 5500 search function. Or you may obtain a copy of the Plan's annual report by making a written request to the Plan Administrator. Individual information, such as the amount of your accrued benefit under the Plan, is not contained in the annual report. If you are seeking information regarding your benefits under the Plan, contact the Plan Administrator identified below under "Where To Get More Information."

Please note that the annual report for the 2023 Plan Year may not be available until April of 2025.

Summary of Rules Governing Insolvent Plans

Federal law has a number of special rules that apply to financially troubled multiemployer plans. Although the Plan is not insolvent, the Plan Administrator is required by law to include a summary of these rules in the annual funding notice.

A plan is insolvent for a plan year if its available financial resources are not sufficient to pay benefits when due for that plan year. An insolvent plan must reduce benefit payments to the highest level that can be paid from the plan's available resources. If such resources are not enough to pay benefits at the level specified by law (see Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC, below), the plan must apply to the PBGC for financial assistance. The PBGC will loan the plan the amount necessary to pay benefits at the guaranteed level. Reduced benefits may be restored if the plan's financial condition improves.

A plan that becomes insolvent must provide prompt notice of its insolvency status to participants and beneficiaries, contributing employers, labor unions representing participants, and the PBGC. In addition, participants and beneficiaries also must receive information regarding whether, and how, their benefits will be reduced or affected, including loss of a lump sum option. This information will be provided for each year the plan is insolvent.

Benefit Payments Guaranteed by the PBGC

The maximum benefit that the PBGC guarantees is set by law. Only benefits that you have earned a right to receive and that can not be forfeited (called vested benefits) are guaranteed. Specifically, the PBGC guarantees a monthly benefit payment equal to 100 percent of the first \$11 of the Plan's monthly benefit accrual rate, plus 75 percent of the next \$33 of the accrual rate, times each year of credited service. The PBGC's maximum guarantee, therefore, is \$35.75 per month times a participant's years of credited service.

Example 1: If a participant with 10 years of credited service has an accrued monthly benefit of \$500, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the PBGC guarantee would be determined by dividing the monthly benefit by the participant's years of service (\$500/10), which equals \$50. The guaranteed amount for a \$50 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus \$24.75 (.75 x \$33), or \$35.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit is \$357.50 (\$35.75 x 10).

Example 2: If the participant in Example 1 has an accrued monthly benefit of \$200, the accrual rate for purposes of determining the guarantee would be \$20 (or \$200/10). The guaranteed amount for a \$20 monthly accrual rate is equal to the sum of \$11 plus \$6.75 (.75 x \$9), or \$17.75. Thus, the participant's guaranteed monthly benefit would be \$177.50 (\$17.75 x 10).

The PBGC guarantees pension benefits payable at normal retirement age and some early retirement benefits. In calculating a person's monthly payment, the PBGC will disregard any benefit increases that were made under the plan within 60 months before the earlier of the plan's termination or insolvency (or benefits that were in effect for less than 60 months at the time of termination or insolvency). Similarly, the PBGC does not guarantee pre-retirement death benefits to a spouse or beneficiary (e.g., a qualified pre-retirement survivor annuity) if the participant dies after the plan terminates, benefits above the normal retirement benefit, disability benefits not in pay status, or non-pension benefits, such as health insurance, life insurance, death benefits, vacation pay, or severance pay.

Where to Get More Information

For more information about this notice, you may contact the Plan Administrator, Sherry Viso, Operating Engineers Local No. 825 Fund Service Facilities, 65 Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081 at (973) 671-6800. For identification purposes, the official Plan number is 001 and the Plan sponsor's name and employer identification number or "EIN" is Board of Trustees of the Operating Engineers Local No. 825 Pension

Plan, EIN 22-6033380. For more information about the PBGC, go to PBGC's website, <u>www.pbgc.gov</u>.