

'ANGUS BARKS'

By Jeff Francis
AEG Executive Board

Summertime

SHUTDOWN- Plants I&II will be shutdown FW31. Enjoy this time with your family. Take a mental health break from GE.

Exceptions will be maintenance crews, working to install new machinery in LMO, and limited heat treat & tool crib coverage for Plant IV and Assembly.

LMO employees with less than 15 years service, may choose to take FW31 off unpaid, and schedule their vacation time later in the year. Make sure your cell leader codes your time-card **TL** for FW 31.

LMO employees with 15 or more years service, are expected to use one of their vacation weeks to cover FW 31. Everyone in LMO who is not scheduled to work FW31 should have their time-card coded **TL** or **VA**.

After FW31, there are no other time periods in 2009, for which any hourly employees will be required to save their vacation time. When you choose to take your remaining incidental vacation time, be sure to schedule it with your cell leader.

During the last quarter of this year, the Company will discuss the 2010 vacation schedule with Local 201. Whatever that schedule turns out to be, we will have advance notice, to allow you to make 2010 plans for you and your family.

MIDPOINT- Since January, work orders declined 100,000 hours in Plants I&II. Overall, Local 201 is down 150 jobs due to retirements and attrition. Lynn management has maintained their commitment to Local 201 of no hard layoffs to the street this year. The more that work volume erodes, the more difficult that becomes. Current economic conditions look likely to continue well into 2010.

In this situation, any farmout we can prevent, and any farm-in we can implement, helps keep our short service members employed.

PLANT IV WORK- Meanwhile Plant IV has excess work that area management is farming out. This includes spot weld, VTL, tig weld and bench work. The full Executive Board reviewed this situation, and decided it was in the best interests of the membership to try to keep this work in-plant. On a temporary basis, some specific drawing numbers will be farmed into LMO areas that are hurting for work.

REVIEW PROCESS- Each drawing number is reviewed for capacity, manpower and technical issues by Union and Company reps before any agreement is reached. Any work coming into LMO will have a daywork routing sheet and standard planning. Dayworkers will only work on these parts as dayworkers.

MOVEMENT- Before we started this process, Local 201 insisted that all 34 piecework openings caused by VRIP retirements be backfilled. That resulted in dayworkers moving up the seniority ladder closer to future piecework openings. We will make the same demand for any piecework openings caused by the Nov SERO WINDOW.

AVIATION- During economic recessions and depressions, big companies swallow up small companies. GE Aviation added Smiths and Unison shops, and they're still digesting those acquisitions. As a result, there are many GE locations that are hungry for work. Restrictions on doubletime, announced by management for the third quarter, reflect this open capacity in the Aviation supply chain.

There's greater danger, when area management falls delinquent and farms out work, that it won't come back. The Executive Board believes we're looking out for both dayworkers and pieceworkers by trying to keep all Lynn work in-house.

