

Joint Statement

Unite and Balfour Beatty Engineering Services (BBES) in talks to end the BESNA dispute

The current dispute between Unite and the seven companies who are promoting the BESNA agreement is causing serious concern within the industry and threatens to escalate into a damaging conflict.

The objective of the seven companies was to address perceived shortcomings within current working rules agreements and to offer ways to create a more modern approach in the current competitive environment.

Unite understands the questions raised by those seven companies and believes a review of the JIB and other industry working rule agreements is desirable.

BBES has agreed to withdraw the BESNA contracts and Unite has agreed not to pursue further industrial action or protest on the basis that wide ranging talks will now take place on modernising the industry. Both parties are committed to high level talks within an agreed timeline with the aim of creating new proposals and ensuring agreed terms are honoured.

It is the intention of Unite, along with the employers' associations and reputable companies, to bring stability and fairness to this section of the construction industry.

• JOINT STATEMENT ENDS •

UNITE ADDENDUM

Unite has been advised that there are companies acting outside the JIB and give notice that they will be singled out for action in order to bring them back in line with the acceptable standards of the industry.

• END •

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