

EAST MIDLANDS REGION
REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICAL
ENGINEERING AND ELECTRONICS
SECTOR COMMITTEE



Held on Thursday 11th March

Attendees: Tom Sawyer (Regional Officer)
Paul Welsh (Chair), Nigel Powell, Phil Sykes.

Welcome & Introduction

Chair Welcomed everyone to the meeting

1 **Apologies for Absence:**
None

2 **Minutes of the Last Meeting:**
Agreed

3 **Matters Arising:**
Phil Sykes attended a meeting where Andrew Dodgshon from Unites political unit presented the unions strategy for the forthcoming general election. There was a very clear and interesting explanation of the relationship between Unite and the Labour Party and the dangers of a Tory government. However there were no leaflets or booklets provided.

4 **Regional Industrial Report:**
As stated in previous minutes 2010 will be a difficult year. Recent developments, discussions at Toyota have resulted in the announcement of a pay freeze but the short time working will end and employees will have an extra 5 day paid holiday for 2010 only.

Very little activity on the pay front, only one company has announced a pay deal which is a three year deal at East Midlands Airport.

5 **Delegates Industrial Reports**

Cummins: Following a difficult period in which a ballot for industrial action resulted in a 96% vote in favour of industrial action there now exists a real understanding as the actual situation for the site.

That understanding came about as a result of a visit to the site by the National Officer, John Rowe and a meeting with the company MD. A revised hours proposal has been accepted and members have been briefed that the situation at the company is one that if not resolved could affect the viability of the site. A proposal from the company is being conducted and will be presented in due course.

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

Brush Electrical Machines: Negotiations on a proposal from the company 'Fit for the Future – Sharing in Success' have resulted in an 83% rejection. The negotiations have been protracted and despite advice from the union the company continues to believe that their proposal would be accepted. The deal was a three year deal 2010, 2011 and 2012 (there was no pay rise for 2009) a production bonus was part of the deal. There was a free vote on the proposal however the company's proposal did contain a threat that if the proposal was rejected the 10 million pound investment and other site benefits would not occur.

Due to the behaviour of the company, during and post ballot no further meetings will be arranged and a ballot for industrial action will be arranged.

6 Establishing Regional Industrial Strategy (to include General Election Preparations):

Paul Welsh and Nigel Powell attended a meeting in Leicester to discuss the general election, the meeting focused on providing contact details for members who wanted to get involved outside the workplace.

The request made to the meeting was for support for representatives to work on the election within the workplace.

Tom Sawyer will be meeting Andrew Dodgshon and will further request the provision of resources for workplace representatives.

Organising: Cummins – Phil Sykes concentration is being given to recruiting agency and staff employees

Brush Electrical Machines, Traction and Transformers – Work is being done to ensure that member's lists are accurate and reflective of the workplace, then use that information to direct recruitment.

7 Equality Committee Vacancies:

Noted

8 Regional Industrial Committee Dates 2010

Noted

9 Any Other Business:

Policy Motions to Conference, none submitted

Delegates to Policy and Rules Revision Conference 31st May to 4th June

Delegate to Policy Conference – Paul Welsh

Substitute delegate to Policy Conference – Nigel Powell

Delegate to Rules Revision Conference – Phil Sykes

Substitute delegate to Rules Revision Conference – Paul Welsh