# Notice of Critical Status for Laborers Local 91 Pension Plan EIN: 51-6031768 / PN: 001

This is to inform you that on August 29, 2014, the plan actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and also to the Plan sponsor, that the Plan is in critical status for the Plan year beginning June 1, 2014. Federal law requires that you receive this notice.

## **Critical Status**

The Plan is considered to be in critical status because it has funding or liquidity problems, or both. More specifically, the Plan's actuary determined that the Plan has not passed the "Emergence Test", meaning that the Plan was in critical status last year is projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency in the Plan Year or within the next 9 years.

## Rehabilitation Plan and Possibility of Reduction in Benefits

Federal law requires pension plans in critical status to adopt a rehabilitation plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the Plan. This is the fifth year the Plan has been in critical status. The law permits pension plans to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called "adjustable benefits" as part of a rehabilitation plan. On November 10, 2010, you were notified that the Plan reduced or eliminated adjustable benefits. As of September 23, 2010 the plan is not permitted to pay lump sum benefits (or any other payment in excess of the monthly amount paid under a single life annuity) while it is in critical status. If the trustees of the Plan determine that further benefit reductions are necessary, you will receive a separate notice in the future identifying and explaining the effect of those reductions. Any reduction in adjustable benefits (other than a repeal of a recent benefit increase, as described below) will not reduce the level of a participant's basic benefit payable at normal retirement. In addition, the reductions may only apply to participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is on or after January 1, 2011.

## **Adjustable Benefits**

The plan offers the following adjustable benefits which may be reduced or eliminated as part of any rehabilitation plan: disability benefits, early retirement subsidies, and the Special Early Retirement Benefit for benefits earned prior to 1/1/2011.

### **Employer Surcharge**

The law requires that all contributing employers pay to the Plan a surcharge to help correct the Plan's financial situation until such time as the employer adopts a schedule of the Rehabilitation Plan. The amount of the surcharge is equal to a percentage of the amount an employer is otherwise required to contribute to the plan under the applicable collective bargaining agreement. With some exceptions, a 5% surcharge is applicable in the initial critical year and a 10% surcharge is applicable for each succeeding plan year thereafter in which the plan is in critical status.

### Where to Get More Information

For more information about this Notice, you may contact Mr. William Grace, Fund Administrator at Laborers Local 91 Benefit Funds, 4500 Witmer Industrial Estates, Niagara Falls, NY 14305(716) 297-6001.

You have a right to receive a copy of the Rehabilitation Plan from the Plan.

Date Sent: