

May 12, 2009 – 11:10PM CDT Via E-Mail

TO: CWA District 4 Local Presidents - AT&T Midwest Bargaining Unit

Dear Colleagues:

By now you may have heard that AT&T put a “last, best, and final” offer on the table in District 6, AT&T Southwest. A “last best and final” offer is usually made by a company to signal that they have reached a "bottom line." There are several important things that you need to know and share with your members (this will also be in the bargaining report in the morning):

We are continuing to bargain in the Midwest, and there has not been any such "last best and final" proposal made at our table, nor do we expect one. Informal discussion went on Tuesday in the Midwest and we expect to have discussion of the full range of issues on Wednesday as well. Our committee continues to work hard to get members in the Midwest the contract that they deserve. We believe that negotiations are the best way to get there.

These are all separate contracts, and the proposal in District 6 does not have any direct impact on any of the other tables, all of whom are continuing to bargain.

The "summary" of the Southwest offer is a "highlights" document that doesn't reveal all of the retrogressive details included in that proposal. Our committee will analyze those details as soon as we get a copy of the full proposal.

Please make sure that our members understand that we bargain a separate contract and that this offer did not happen at our table.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your Staff Representative.

Sincerely,

Seth Rosen  
Vice President  
CWA District 4