

STEVE TISZA, *President*



LOCAL 4250

Workers of America

(AFFILIATED WITH AFL-CIO)

**3055 Glenwood-Dyer Road
Lynwood, IL 60411
708-757-4065**

March 26, 2009

Dear AT&T Business Customers,

We know that you and your employer are feeling the effects of the current economic crisis. A disruption in your voice and data services from AT&T could make matters worse. Unfortunately, such a disruption may be on the horizon. CWA contracts with AT&T terminate at 11:59PM, Saturday, April 4, 2009.

We are 125,000 AT&T employees and union members, and we are currently in negotiations to reach a fair contract with the AT&T Corporation. On the issue of healthcare benefits, we are very far from agreement. AT&T's management is demanding that we accept massive cost-shifting for health care benefits.

Employees would see their healthcare costs **quadruple** under the company's proposal. Retirees living on a fixed income are even more vulnerable because their insurance costs more and they need more care.

Why are AT&T's executives trying to make employees and retirees pay more? It's not because AT&T can't afford it.

Plenty of corporations are in trouble these days. AT&T isn't one of them. Its 2008 corporate profits were \$12.9 billion. Cash flow for 2008 was \$42.9 million, the highest it's been in nine years. Wall Street and industry analysts expect the company to continue to do well, despite the recession.

AT&T is pressing for these drastic cuts in healthcare benefits just at the moment that the entire country is focused on health care reform. Instead of joining other industry leaders, unions, and consumer groups who are working to expand affordable, quality healthcare, AT&T's executives want to shift well over \$400 million onto employees and retirees.

For AT&T to risk a strike when it has no reason to push the Unions to this extreme measure is just irresponsible. It shows they care more about their own bottom line than they do about the business customers AT&T serves.

We want a fair agreement that rewards our hard work and helps us take care of our families and our futures. Certainly, AT&T can afford to do right by employees and retirees.

Please tell AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson to protect your AT&T services and to come to a fair agreement with AT&T employees. You can leave a message with Mr. Stephenson's office at 210-351-5401 or e-mail him at rs2982@att.com

Thank you for your support.

Steve Tisza, President
CWA Local 4250