

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
FINANCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
JOINT ECONOMIC

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 26, 2019

Mr. Ray Betler
Chief Executive Officer
Wabtec Corporation
1001 Air Brake Avenue
Wilmerding, PA 15148

Dear Mr. Betler,

I write today out of concern for the lack of a labor agreement between Wabtec and UE Local 506 and 618 and specifically to urge you to continue to work with labor leaders in Erie to come to a fair deal for all parties.

The workforce in Erie has manufactured world-class locomotives in the region for decades, helping to make GE a top competitor in the locomotive industry. These family-sustaining jobs have helped power the region's economy for decades, and I suspect the highly skilled workforce in Erie was an important factor in your decision to merge with GE. As you know, in recent years the Erie facility has suffered massive job losses, with the elimination of 1,500 good-paying jobs in 2016, and further job losses in 2017. We must do all that we can to keep quality, good-paying jobs in Erie. Doing so is good for Wabtec, for workers, and for the Erie economy as a whole.

It is my understanding that Wabtec and representatives from UE Local 506 and 618 have been trying to come to an agreement that preserves the wages, benefits, and working conditions of GE/Wabtec employees but have been unsuccessful to date. I have also been alerted that, absent a short-term agreement with Wabtec, UE 506 and 618 members are now on strike for first time since 1969 at the Lawrence Park plant. I ask that you do all you can in your new role to work with UE Local 506 and 618 representatives and reach a deal that is satisfactory to all parties.

We must do all that we can to help the City, the workforce, and the regional economy. I stand ready to work with you, UE Local 506 and other stakeholders to ensure that Wabtec has the support they need. Please feel free to call me directly or contact Andrew Usyk on my staff at (202) 224-6851 to discuss this request.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator