



13 July 2020

## To the Striking Asarco Workers in Arizo and Texas

Emailed to: [tconway@usw.org](mailto:tconway@usw.org); [eramirez@usw.org](mailto:eramirez@usw.org); [bdavis@usw.org](mailto:bdavis@usw.org)

### Re: Solidarity Message from CFMEU Mining & Energy Division

Comrades,

We send greetings of global solidarity to you all in these extraordinary times. Not only are you faced with the current challenges of the global COVID-19 pandemic but your employer Asarco remains an absolute "ASS".

We have heard the stories of Grupo Mexico-Asarco's anti-labour and anti-Union stance and your efforts to push back against their failure to bargain in good faith and their completely unacceptable offer, from your Leaders and from IndustriALL (our global Union Federation) and be assured comrades that we stand with you in your fight. And we condemn, in the strongest terms, the behaviour of Grupo Mexico-Asarco.

Long running strike and picket lines are always challenging, as we all know, but your commitment to each other, your discipline and solidarity is inspiring and whilst we cannot be there in person to help with this burden we can provide some support.

Our Central Executive, which represents the Mining & Energy workers of the Construction, Forestry, Maritime, Mining and Energy Union, unanimously endorsed a donation of A\$25,000.00 to assist with your struggles.

Comrades, we have also heard reports that the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has ruled in favour of you, the striking Workers, highlighting Asarco management's failure to bargain in good faith with the Unions representing its Employees, both before and during the ongoing dispute. The ruling, as we are advised, shows that the company provoked the dispute and never intended to offer a fair deal. We trust that this ruling is an encouraging development and that it vindicates your strong stance.

We also understand that the tactical decision was made to suspend the strike, however the company still has not taken the Workers back, which is a disgrace. Grupo Mexico-Asarco must now end these tactics, their anti-labour and anti-Union stance, and they must negotiate in good faith.

Comrades, you all have bravely faced up to the intransigence of Grupo Mexico-Asarco, for eight long and difficult months and you have now been vindicated by this NLRB ruling. You have shown your strength and determination, and that you will prevail. Our Union, Members and Officials stand shoulder to shoulder with you in this struggle.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Kelly".

**Grahame Kelly**  
General Secretary