

Michael Vassiliadis  
Vorsitzender

Industriegewerkschaft  
Bergbau, Chemie, Energie



**VB 1**  
Gesamtleitung

**Abteilung**  
Europäische und Internationale  
Gewerkschaftspolitik

**Hauptverwaltung**  
Königsworther Platz 6  
30167 Hannover  
Telefon (0511)7631-0  
Durchw. 0511-7631-444  
Fax 0511-7631-738  
g-ep@igbce.de

IG BCE, Postfach 3047, 30030 Hannover

Leo Gerard  
International President  
USW  
60 Boulevard of the Allies  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
USA  
lgerard@usw.org

Unser Zeichen: MV/MM/UG  
Hannover, 08.05.2019

## IG BCE in solidarity with locked out USW Local 13-1 workers at DowDuPont-owned Rohm and Haas Texas Inc

Dear Leo,

I write to you on behalf of IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie (IG BCE), which represents about 640.000 members in the mining, chemical and energy industries in Germany, to express our full support and solidarity with the struggle of United Steelworkers at Rohm and Haas Texas Inc, who have been locked out by the company in their efforts to negotiate a fair contract.

This is a wholly owned subsidiary of DowDuPont, and that multinational employer has full responsibility for this unfair labor practice of locking out hard working people in Deer Park.

We call on DowDuPont to bargain in good faith and reach an agreement with Local 13-1 so that work can restart under a fair contract.

We know that 228 members of Local 13-1 have been locked out in Deer Park by the company since 22 April. The membership has voted overwhelmingly to twice reject the company's last, best and final offer. We know that the central problems are around wages, overtime distribution, and arbitration provisions. Instead of continuing to bargain in good faith, the employer responded to these two worker votes with a mass lockout.

The hard-working members of Local 13-1 deserve wages that are at least in line with the industry standard in the area. You are right to stand strong with this demand. Regarding overtime distribution, you are right to protect your current system, and to tell the company to stop understaffing, instead of changing an overtime system that works. And you are right to demand an arbitration process that is fair and brings unresolved grievances to an arbitrator, instead of giving management the freedom to discipline employees without any recourse mechanism for workers.

IG BCE sends our warmest solidarity greetings and support to Local 13-1's picket line and union hall in Pasadena. Stay strong, you are not alone.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Vassiliadis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M".

Michael Vassiliadis  
President