



**European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)**

**Press Communication, 1 March 2010**

## **EPSU supports German workers against raw cuts of Swedish energy company Vattenfall**

The Swedish state-owned company Vattenfall is asking its German workers to cut in wages and benefits, to open existing collective agreements and to agree to major outsourcing so these companies are no longer covered by the collective agreement. The workers in the company contributed to 1.8 billion Euros profits and are now asked to keep their demands low so profits and dividends can be kept high. The workers are saying NO. To underline this point EPSU affiliate Verdi will organize a large demonstration in front of the Swedish embassy in Berlin on 3 March. The workers want to underline the responsibility of the owner: the Swedish state.

**“Vattenfall workers can not accept that the company keeps its profit targets unchanged and goes to look for the money from its employees”, says EPSU Deputy General Secretary Jan Willem Goudriaan. “We expect more of a company that puts its Corporate Social Responsibility so high, or is this one other company that whitewashes its corporate image and basically cares just about reaping in money even if at the expense of its employees ?”**

EPSU expresses its solidarity with the German workers and will follow the outcome of the conflict together with workers in other countries where Vattenfall is active such as Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden and UK.

For more information on the action see also:

<http://presse.verdi.de/pressemitteilungen/showNews?id=5966c806-22be-11df-56d2-0019b9e321e1>

For the good results of Vattenfall

<http://www.vattenfall.com/en/vattenfalls-year-end-results-2009.htm>

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*EPSU is the European Federation of Public Service Unions. It is the largest federation of the ETUC and comprises 8 million public service workers from over 250 trade unions; EPSU organises workers in the energy, water and waste sectors, health and social services and local and national administration, in all European countries including in the EU's Eastern Neighborhood. EPSU is the recognized regional organization of Public Services International (PSI).*