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EPSU CONGRESS DECLARATION

Adopted on 15 June 2004

Transnational Solidarity for an Integrated Industry

EPSU Standards for the European Electricity and Gas Industry

The EPSU Standing Committee on Public Utilities has agreed that companies operating in the European electricity and gas industry have to commit to the Core ILO Labour Rights Conventions

These Core ILO Conventions are the right to organise and right to collective bargaining (87 and 98), equal opportunities and equal pay (100 and 111), no forced labour (29 and 105) and no child labour (138 and 182)

EPSU affiliated unions will not accept violation of these standards.

Unions evoking the violation of these standards will receive support from EPSU and its affiliates, who will engage in a solidarity campaign to ensure compliance of the company with these standards.

Strike support

If requested and informed, EPSU affiliates will send warnings to employers that they will monitor strike actions¹. EPSU affiliated unions will also inform members, shop stewards and works councils on the circumstances of the strike.

Respect for Collective Agreements

Companies and Employers' organisations are to respect the collective agreements they enter into. Employers or companies that want to depart from the national collective agreements for the Electricity sector against the wishes of the trade union partners, will prompt solidarity actions from EPSU and its affiliates.

EPSU will target employers or companies that do not sign the appropriate collective agreement for the Electricity sector, as determined by the relevant trade unions, and then undermine its provisions, with solidarity actions.

EPSU will target employers or companies that try to bypass the trade unions and do not aim for a constructive social dialogue with the unions with solidarity actions.

¹ Note: this requires timely information exchange on planned strikes between EPSU affiliates (see EPSUcob@ project).