



International Union of Operating Engineers

* * * **Local 139** * * *

Providing A Skilled Workforce For Wisconsin's Future
N27 W23233 Roundy Drive • P.O. Box 130 • Pewaukee, WI 53072
Phone: (262) 896-0139 • Fax (262) 896-0758
www.iuoe139.org

Terrance E. McGowan
President/Business Manager
General Vice President

Wisconsin Operating Engineers Urges Protestors to Stop Endangering Workers, Refrain from Damaging Equipment

*For more information, contact
Local 139 President/Business Manager
Terrance E. McGowan: 262-896-0139*

MEDIA ADVISORY

Aug. 25, 2017

PEWAUKEE, Wis. – We were disturbed to learn that protestors recently entered a pipeline construction right-of-way in Douglas County, WI, and jumped onto a working piece of equipment, damaging the equipment and throwing rocks at workers. Some of the workers on that job site are members of the Wisconsin Operating Engineers, a 115-year-old Wisconsin trade union.

Construction sites are inherently dangerous and only people with the training and legally-required certifications should enter an active site. The protestors' actions endangered not only their own safety, but also the safety of the workers and contractors on site, the surrounding communities and the environment.

Many of the hard-working men and women who faced these masked protestors are from Douglas County and surrounding areas. They live here, pay taxes here, send their kids to school here, and worship here. They are your brothers, sisters, and neighbors and do not deserve to have their lives endangered by radical, violent protestors.

While we strongly support debate and the right to peacefully protest – tenants of the labor movement – we strongly oppose violence-inciting rhetoric and the celebration of harm to people and property. We urge the protestors to cease endangering the lives of hard-working Wisconsinites and make their views known through legal channels and peaceful demonstration outside of active construction sites.

Established in 1902, Operating Engineers Local 139 is a statewide trade union that primarily represents skilled Operators of heavy construction equipment and mechanics who service the machines. The union has approximately 9,000 active and retired members and is headquartered in Pewaukee. Local 139 also maintains district offices in Madison, Appleton and Altoona, as well as a state-certified training school for Operating Engineers in Coloma.

BRANCH OFFICES

Appleton
5191 Abitz Road
Appleton, WI 54914
(920) 739-6378

Eau Claire
1003 S. Hillcrest Parkway
Altoona, WI 54720
(715) 838-0139

Madison
4702 S. Biltmore Lane
Madison, WI 53718
(608) 243-0139