



AFL-CIO

AMERICA'S UNIONS

**American Federation
of Labor and
Congress of Industrial
Organizations**

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November 22, 2021

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Earlier this year the Postal Service announced a contract with Oshkosh Defense for the Next Generation Delivery Vehicle. This vehicle is sorely needed by Postal Service workers and is a good way to sustain domestic manufacturing. However, it appears that the Postal Service has missed an opportunity to amplify the impact of its contract because it failed to ensure high-road, union manufacturing.

The Postal Service seems to have given full discretion to Oshkosh Defense for where the vehicle is produced, working conditions, and wages that will be paid to its workers. One could have rightly assumed that in winning the contract Oshkosh Defense would build the vehicle in its unionized facilities, in its hometown of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. To the great disappointment of the workers and Oshkosh community the company decided instead to open a brand new, non-union facility, in a new state, where it will build both traditional and electric vehicles.

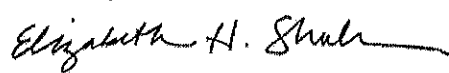
For UAW members, losing the opportunity to build this truck, also means losing an opportunity to be part of the electric transition. This is not how we build back better. However, we believe there is still an opportunity for the Postal Service to remedy this mistake.

To execute the contract with Oshkosh Defense, the Postal Service must complete an Environmental Impact Statement. The Postal Service's Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is a flawed and inadequate document that fails to take into account the important impacts of how and where the vehicles will be produced. The UAW submitted comments on the DEIS to that effect. A new or amended impact statement can do the needed analysis that contemplates the environmental and socio-economic impact of producing in an existing, unionized worksite, with a trained, experienced, incumbent workforce, or choosing a new location, with no existing workforce and no prior experience producing for Oshkosh Defense.

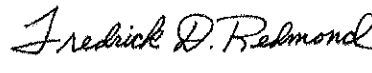
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We applaud your explicit commitment to workers through your campaign for president and upon taking office – we support your call to build back better by building back with union workers. Collectively our unions represent millions of workers. We stand together in asking your administration to support our call for the Postal Service to pursue all avenues to fix the Next Generation Delivery Vehicle contract so that it supports and protects Oshkosh Defense’s existing, union workforce. In this way, the administration can join us in opposing Oshkosh’s use of a USPS contract to facilitate union evasion and a race to the bottom in wages, benefits and working conditions.

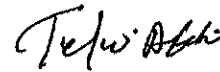
Sincerely,



Elizabeth H. Shuler
President



Fredrick D. Redmond
Secretary-Treasurer



Tefere A. Gebre
Executive Vice President

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AFGE

Cheryl Eliano
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Lee Saunders
AFSCME

Elissa McBride
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