

Update - Tembec, workers sign deal at Chetwynd pulp mill

Monday, December 14, 2009

Tembec has announced it has reached a deal with workers at its idled pulp mill in Chetwynd.

The new deal is reportedly for a five-year term, and has been ratified by what the company is calling a "large majority of the membership."

According to the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union Members voted 88% in favour of the five year agreement. "By voting in favour, Local 448 has paved the way for Tembec to fire up the Chetwynd Mill again," said Local 448 President Hugh Collins. "We expect that our members will be called back to work this week."

The CEP also says the 5 year deal includes wage increases of 1% in the third year, and 2% in each of the fourth and fifth years of the agreement. It also includes a wage adjustment for tradespersons, and increases to dental benefits.

As reported on Dec. 10th, the mill is expected to re-open at the beginning of January, and ramp up to full production in February.

The Chetwynd mill has an production capacity of 240,000 tonnes per year. It was shut down in February of 2009, putting approximately 180 people out of work.