



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UFCW LOCAL 7 SECURES WAGE INCREASE FOR WORKERS AT JBS GREELEY WITHOUT REOPENING CONTRACT; UNION SAYS MORE CHANGES NEEDED TO PROTECT ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Last Week, Following a Meeting with the Company, the UFCW Union Publicly Demanded that JBS give a Wage Increase to its Members Without Re-negotiating the Existing Contract

DENVER – Today, the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 7 (UFCW 7), which represents more than 3,000 workers at JBS Greeley in Colorado, confirmed JBS will institute a wage increase of \$1.85 per hour without reopening the contract-- a victory for the union members. Local 7 President Kim Cordova continues to demand more be done at JBS Greeley to protect workers, including improving safety measures inside the plant, removing policies that promote work while sick culture, and providing hourly hazard pay for workers as the facility continues to lead the nation in meat processing plant worker deaths due to the coronavirus.

Kim Cordova, President of UFCW Local 7, issued the following statement on behalf of the union:

“The pressure from UFCW Local 7 and our members secured the wage increase at the Greeley JBS plant. To be clear, there was never a contract to vote on, as our contract is up in 2021. If the company wanted to increase wages, it could have done so from the beginning. Thankfully our skilled union members demanded a well-deserved wage increase since they put their lives in danger every day to help secure America’s food supply. Our members have also been brave and have spoken out publicly to reveal a still unsafe workplace, one that cares more about profit margins than protecting the workforce who makes JBS profitable.

With over 300 confirmed cases of COVID-19, JBS’ negligence for workplace safety converted the plant into a COVID-19 hotspot in Colorado, for which ultimately six of our members paid the ultimate price: death.

An increase of \$1.85 an hour is not enough to make up for the lives lost and the dangers they face every day. The Union will continue to fight for our members to ensure they are not bullied into a bad deal like the one that JBS first put forward. As we move forward, the Union continues to demand that JBS improves plant safety measures, provides high-quality PPE, removes policies that promote its current ‘Work While Sick Culture,’ offers paid sick leave immediately, and institutes hourly hazard pay. UFCW Local 7’s work on behalf of our 3,000 members employed at JBS is far from over.”

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Local 7, is the largest private-sector Union in Colorado and Wyoming. It is affiliated with the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union which represents over 1.3 million workers in the United States and Canada, one of the largest private-sector Unions in North America. UFCW members work in a wide range of industries, including retail food, food processing, agriculture, retail sales, and health care.

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