October 27, 2015

To: All IUOE Business Managers

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I am pleased to share with you that late today the General Executive Board of the International Union of Operating Engineers endorsed Hillary Clinton for President of the United States. The decision was unanimous.

Now is the right time to support Secretary Clinton. She has a proven record of leadership and advocacy for the middle class and Operating Engineers.

I can tell you from my personal observations that her record on labor issues as a U.S. Senator from New York, my home state, was outstanding. Having represented the most union-dense state in the nation gives her a unique understanding of our policy issues and the real-life impact those policies have on millions of workers across the nation.

Secretary Clinton supports IUOE policy positions on labor law, including Davis-Bacon prevailing wages, Project Labor Agreements, and labor law reform. She was a co-sponsor of the Employee Free Choice Act. She has committed to stand with us as we fight against right-to-work and other anti-union attacks in the states.

Hillary Clinton has a clear path to victory in 2016. She possesses significant financial advantages, major demographic advantages, and, currently, public polling advantages. The primary dynamics certainly favor her candidacy. As we know, the Democratic Primary cleared up last week with the announcement of Vice President Biden. Unfortunately, the Republican Primary reveals nothing but dysfunction. Last week, even one of the “moderate” Republican hopefuls proposed ending the federal role in the highway program, which would be a devastating blow to the livelihoods of Operating Engineers.

As we do on so many other political decisions, we need to look beyond party. We need to look beyond personality. We need to have a laser-like focus on those policies that benefit Operating Engineers and our families. With that as the sole, driving criterion for our decision, the choice could not be more clear. Hillary Rodham Clinton is the best choice for President of the United States.
We understand that a member’s vote is a personal decision – one that they make in the privacy of the voting booth. We have taken the time to research the records of the various candidates on key pocketbook issues important to Operating Engineers, and we intend to convey this critical information to members and their families as the 2016 election nears. While we will never have unanimity in the IUOE ranks, the question about who leads the United States is simply too important to the lives and livelihoods of Operating Engineers to remain on the sidelines.

Please feel free to share this information with your members and your network. I wanted to share this news with you immediately; the public release of the endorsement will occur tomorrow morning.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me or Jeff Soth, IUOE Legislative and Political Director.

Fraternally,

[Signature]

James T. Callahan
General President