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I am writing this report from Mobile, Alabama where Pipeliners Local Union 798 has a picket against Willbros Construction Company. Willbros was awarded the 11.2 miles of 42" pipeline by Sempra Energy, a company headquartered near San Diego, California. Fair and competitive bids by reputable pipeline contractors were ignored, and this official protest resulted. The Willbros welders have had their rig rates cut to \$12.00 per hour, and their per diem reduced on this low-ball project. Only certain welders are receiving fuel, and working conditions are not up to industry standards. Local 798 is committed to making the public aware of this company's record on safety, low wages, poor working conditions, and efforts to bring in undocumented workers from foreign countries.

I want to personally thank Brother Danny Hendrix, Brother David Barnett, and every 798 member that is helping, has helped, or has offered to help with this protest. I am also proud and humbled to see the turn out of union members from the Southwest Alabama Labor Council. This collection of Alabama AFL-CIO unions from the Mobile, Alabama area has been impressive to say the least. Under the leadership of Labor Council President Larry Finch, these locals have turned out to assist local 798.

I also want United Association Locals 52, 119, and 366 to be recognized. These brothers and sisters have stood shoulder to shoulder with us from the beginning of our protest. Pipeliners Local Union 798 will not forget your brotherhood.

Much of the current work in my jurisdiction is winding down, but there is work on the books. I reported in the last issue that Transco and Southern Natural have some nice projects in various stages of readiness. These are real jobs in Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina, but permits and pipe delays have prevented start-ups. The Florida Gas VIII project continues to progress, but no starting date has been announced at this printing. 100 miles of 16" in South Carolina for South Carolina Pipeline, and 68 miles of 24" for Georgia Natural Gas will also be built in 2010.

At this writing, CBC Pipeline LLC, has two 16" projects awarded to the company. Both Louisiana projects should be well under way by late October. 57 miles of 16" and 24" have been let in the Jacksonville, Florida area to (1) 798 contractor and (2) non-union contractors. Peoples Gas will make formal announcements, and starting dates in the near future.

Recent pre-jobs:

- 1) Midwestern. Double joint 4.2 miles of 30" for Skyline Steel in Panama City, FL.
- 2) CBC Pipeline. 1000' of 6" lateral in Spring Ridge, LA (1 week duration).
- 3) CBC Pipeline. 2000' of 6" new lay for Chesapeake Energy in Keithville, LA.
- 4) CBC Pipeline. 8450' of 8" for Petro Hawk Services in Keithville, LA.
- 5) CBC Pipeline. 5 miles of 16" for Hawk Field Services in Keithville, LA.
- 6) Double D Pipeline. Station construction for Enbridge in Tuscumbia, AL.
- 7) CBC Pipeline. 4000' of 8" for Chesapeake Energy (10 days) in Keithville, LA.

New Job Notifications:

1) Midwestern. Double Joint 59 miles of 30", 36", & 42" for Florida Gas Transmission VIII at Panama City, FL.

2) Midwestern. Double Joint 28 miles of 42" for Ruby PL at Panama City, FL.

3) Midwestern. Double Joint 2.2 miles of 36" for Enbridge at Panama City, FL.

4) CBC Pipeline. 5 miles of 16" x .500 wall for Chesapeake Energy in Keithville, LA.

Make plans to attend the December union meeting. It is always held on the second Friday at 7:00 PM. If I can assist welders with Building Trades work, please let me know. And a reminder to everyone: Get on the out-of-work list as soon as you finish a job. It is the dispatch office that sends welders, journeymen, and helpers to jobs.