

For Immediate Release

Bargaining Stalls Between SAMCO and Laborers Union *Connection Found Between SAMCO and Hamilton Southeastern Utilities, Inc.*

Indianapolis, December 20, 2010: This week marks the seventh month of negotiations between the Laborers Union and locally-owned and operated Sanitary Management & Engineering Co., Inc. (also known as SAMCO) for a first collective bargaining agreement.

Field employees of SAMCO selected the Indiana Laborers District Council as their bargaining representative in 2010 by a overwhelming vote of 16 - 4 in a National Labor Relations Board election. Despite months of bargaining, SAMCO has refused to acknowledge the basic principle that employees should only be discharged or disciplined for just cause. The Laborers Union is resolved to obtain a fair labor agreement for SAMCO employees.

David Frye, Field Representative of the Indiana Laborers District Council said of the stalled negotiations, *"We will continue to monitor SAMCO's actions and will pursue the necessary legal remedies, if necessary, to protect the rights of SAMCO employees."*

Hamilton County residents may be familiar with SAMCO since they do a significant amount of contract work for Hamilton Southeastern Utilities, Inc (HSE). Interestingly, in documents submitted to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) in 2008 it appears that four of the officers of HSE are also shareholders in SAMCO.

INCIN intends to probe more deeply into the relationship between the officers of HSE, the shareholders of SAMCO, and any past and future requests for rate increases with the IURC.

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