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Amazon Tech Employees To Travel Minnesota to Show Solidarity With Striking Warehouse Workers

(SEATTLE) – On Prime Day (July 15), several Amazon tech employees will travel to Minnesota from Seattle to show solidarity with striking warehouse workers. The employees are part of Amazon Employees for Climate Justice which has pushed the company to take action to address the climate crisis and organized an open letter signed by nearly 8,000 employees.

The Minnesota <u>warehouse workers announced their Prime Day strike</u> to fight for humane working conditions, full-time instead of temporary working status, and fair opportunities for promotions. These workers reached out to Amazon Employees for Climate Justice asking for support.

The tech employees plan to walk the picket line with striking warehouse workers and deliver a speech in support during the rally. The tech workers' group also circulated an email to the climate letter signers to explain why they're supporting the striking warehouse workers and asked their coworkers to submit messages of solidarity to deliver to the warehouse workers.

In this email, the group explained, "Lending our support to our coworkers in MN is a natural part of our climate justice priorities. We cannot create a sustainable, long-term approach to addressing the climate crisis without addressing the structural racial and economic inequities that are part of our system of extraction—of energy, material, and human labor—that has caused the crisis."

Supportive messages from tech workers immediately started pouring in. The group is <u>posting</u> the <u>messages here</u>, and sending them directly to their striking colleagues at the Minnesota Fulfillment Center (FC). Here a few of the solidarity messages:

"Fulfillment center workers are literally the foundation of the success of Amazon's retail business. As profits soar for Amazon, I want the workers doing the heavy lifting in Minnesota to know that tech workers support their calls for safe and equitable working conditions. As a Prime customer, as an Amazon shareholder, and most importantly as a fellow Amazon employee, I

want the Minnesota FC workers to know that their coworkers in Seattle support their calls for safe and equitable working conditions."

"Hello MN FC Workers, I have so much respect for your courage! I would like to offer my support to all of you. We all want to work for a company who puts not only its customers—but also its employees and the environment—first. Because, after all, that is best for everyone. Amazon included. Stand strong!"

"When I was working as an engineer in Fulfillment, I spent a few days working in the warehouses and could not even come close to meeting the individual productivity quotas. The quotas are unrealistically high for most humans. I support FC employees in Minnesota who wish to lower quotas for safer and more comfortable working conditions."

"I recognize my privilege as an office employee is built on the foundation of our FC workers. I support your rights to fair and equal treatment and urge Amazon to put action behind its pretty words of support for minority groups. I want this support in ALL work locations and ALL employees, not just "blue badge" employees in corporate offices. Everyone deserves safety and stability from their work."

"The fulfillment center workers in Minnesota and around the world are fundamental to Amazon's ability to do what it does, and I whole-heartedly support their requests for a safe and equitable work environment. In a modern business climate rife with worker exploitation, Amazon has the capability - and the obligation - to lead by example in fostering that safe and equitable environment, and I have immense respect for the Minnesota FC workers demonstrating their courage in holding Amazon to that high standard. Solidarity forever."

"The treatment of FC workers is a source of shame to me as an Amazon employee. Amazon has the chance here not just to redress its poor record, but to begin to set an example as a fair and equitable employer by providing all of its workers with job security and decent working conditions."