

Dr PETER GAŠPERŠIČ, Minister of Infrastructure
REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE
LANGUSOVA ULICA 4
1535 LJUBLJANA
SLOVENIA

Brussels, 29 March 2016

Dear Minister Gašperšič,

I am writing to you in order to express EPSU¹ support to the general strike organised by SDE Slovenia to defend the social dialogue in the energy sector, from Monday 4th April to the 21st of April.

The workers in the energy sector demand that:

- In cooperation with all stakeholders, including SDE Slovenia, the Government should immediately develop and adopt the decision to restructure and organize Slovenian power industry in such a manner that the safe and reliable operation of Slovenian energy system is maintained and that future quality and reliable electricity supply for consumers is guaranteed.
- Until the above-described decision is adopted all unilateral rationalization and optimization activities in Slovenian power industry companies should stop.

EPSU urges the Slovenian government to respect social dialogue procedures. Workers' voice should be taken into consideration before taking any decision regarding the restructuration of the national energy industry. EPSU is a recognised European social partner. We have regularly discussed the changes in the sector with the European employers and the European Commission. The importance and value of social dialogue is underlined.

As the changes in the energy sector and their social and employment consequences have European causes, we ask you to address this in the European Council and Council of Ministers for Energy. The European Commission should include a social chapter in its Energy Union work. As European trade unions and employers we plead for a process of Just transition. This is also supported by the International Labour Organisation (ILO)

EPSU is concerned about these developments and ask you to immediately have a serious discussion with the trade union.

¹ EPSU is the European Federation of Public Service Unions. It is the largest federation of the ETUC and comprises 8 million public service workers from over 265 trade unions; EPSU organises workers in the energy, water and waste sectors, health and social services and local and national administration, in all European countries including in the EU's Eastern Neighborhood. EPSU is the recognized regional organization of Public Services International (PSI). For more information on EPSU and our work please go to: www.epsu.org

The social dialogue is a key element to ensure a strong energy sector which provides Slovenian people with safe energy supply for consumers and quality jobs for the workers in the sector.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Goudriaan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

EPSU General Secretary
Jan Willem Goudriaan