



# Labor United Educational League

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*“Unity is the most important language of the working-class.”*  
— Harry Bridges

## **LUEL Statement on Ohio Train Derailment**

LUEL sends our deepest solidarity with the workers and people of East Palestine, OH who have become victims of the most recent railroad tragedy. Since the signing of the Staggers Rail Act of 1980, the deregulation of the railroad industry has led to a consolidation of the Class 1 Railroads from 40 to a Cartel of just 5. This consolidation has allowed for the hedge fund initiated operating model known as “Precision Scheduled Railroading” (PSR) to be implemented, cutting “idle time” resulting in insufficient inspections and maintenance. This short term drive for profit has caused excessive cuts to costs, employees, procedures, and resources which have led some Class 1 Railroads (most notably BNSF) to start subcontracting out maintenance further cutting their workforce and avoiding labor laws. The monopolists drive for super-profits at the expense of people’s lives and the environment cannot continue, the safety of the workers and the community must always be part of the equation.

LUEL stands with railroad workers in their fight for a safe working environment. We also stand with Railroad Workers United (RWU) in their call for Nationalization of all Class 1 Railroads in the United States.

An injury to one is an injury to all!

In Unity,  
Labor United Educational League