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MORE THAN 50 COMMUNITY GROUPS RALLY TO SUPPORT TESLA WORKERS

Community calls on Tesla to revise their strict confidentiality agreement to allow employees to discuss their working conditions

FREMONT, CA – More than 50 local community groups, including environmental, health, housing, civil rights, labor and religious groups released a letter today urging Tesla to respect the rights of its employees and allow them to discuss their working conditions without the fear of reprisal.

“Recently, we have heard stories from Tesla production workers who are concerned about their need for living wages, fair and reasonable work schedules, and healthy and safe workplaces,” the letter reads. “In all of their stories is a fear about what will happen to their jobs, and their lives and families, if they speak out.

“We are concerned that this confidentiality agreement violates the letter and the spirit of labor laws which protects the rights of workers to openly discuss organizing and their working conditions. We are calling on Tesla to revise or clarify these rights, and communicate these rights to all workers.”

A full copy of the community’s letter is below.

“We are so thankful to have the support of the community,” said Michael Catura, a Tesla Production Associate. “We believe in Tesla’s mission, but we also believe in ourselves, and we know we have rights. We know that we don’t have to be treated unfairly in order for the company to succeed.”

“Every member of our community deserves a safe place to work,” said Derecka Mehrens, co-founder of Silicon Valley Rising. “Today we are asking Tesla to see the people behind the production numbers – to see them as mothers and fathers and neighbors and friends, and to respect their rights.”

“Workers have to be able to speak up about dangerous conditions in order to get them fixed,” said Doug Parker, Executive Director of WorkSafe. “We stand with Tesla’s workers, who have the right to speak out about what they see, and the right to organize to improve their working conditions.”

“We appreciate the work Tesla is doing to improve our environment, but the company does not have to trample on its workers’ rights to get there,” said Sarah Vig, Vice Chair of the Sierra Employee Alliance, the UAW local that represents Sierra Club employees. “We are committed to moving towards a green future, and to the notion that green jobs should be good jobs that lift people up.”

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