



## TEAMSTERS CANADA RAIL CONFERENCE DIVISION 320



Social and Communications Office  
20358-118<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Maple Ridge, B.C.  
V2X 2M4  
[www.tcrc320.org](http://www.tcrc320.org)

February 11, 2010

**Subject: Thai Railway Workers Asking for Our Help**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Please find appended a message from Eric Lee of LabourStart regarding safety and labour unrest in Thailand. Every signature helps, please give it some thought.

Here is an excerpt from the webpage set up for the petition signatures:

*“Six union officials in the Hat Yai Branch were unfairly dismissed in October 2009 for taking part in national industrial action. Union members refused to drive unsafe trains after a fatal accident had occurred. **The driver in the crash had fallen asleep on duty because he had been working for a month with only one rest day. Background to this incident are the lack of investment and a large-scale reduction of jobs in the SRT by the government.**” (emphasis added)*

In Solidarity,

Murray Douglas  
TCRC Div 320  
604-312-1074  
S&C Officer

# LabourStart

A few months ago, railway workers in Thailand went on strike, refusing to drive unsafe trains following a fatal crash. The employer's response was to sack six union officials and to sue the union for damages.

The State Railway Workers Union and its global union federation, the ITF, have called for an international campaign to protest these decisions, to urge the company to stop fighting against the union and instead to "build a new safety culture in the Thai railways with the workers and the union where whistle-blowers are not penalised."  
Sounds reasonable enough.

But the Thai Transport Minister is pushing the railway to continue pursuing its case against the union in court.

**We can stop this if enough of us send a loud and clear message to the Thai government supporting the union and opposing the court case.**

Our campaign is now live in six languages with more to come -- please **take a moment to sign up.**

And please - spread the word. Forward this message to your fellow union members.

Thanks for your support.

Eric Lee