

# Don't let Con Ed Con you!

The gas explosion of March 12 that killed eight people and injured over 60 people and left so many homeless in East Harlem was a terrible tragedy, but it wasn't just an accident – it was a crime! – a crime of neglect – racist neglect. Now Con Ed is trying to con the public! It has censored coverage of what happened and thinks that if it can take it off the front pages - it can make New Yorkers forget. But we can never forget – that it could happen anywhere.



## These are the facts so far:

1. The Con Ed gas main was installed in 1887 and is made of brittle cast iron. Why were repairs neglected and what is being done now to insure that there are no more explosions?
2. Con Ed CEO John McAvoy made at least \$9 million in salary last year. What has he done to deserve this?
3. Con Ed paid out \$1.06 billion in profit dividends last year. Con Ed claims it needs to keep stockholders happy and only spends 1/10 of this amount on repairs. But what about the communities Con Ed is supposed to serve? Aren't we more important?
4. The National Transit Safety Board is investigating the explosion, but a spokesperson admitted that their recommendations usually take a year or more, and this agency has no legal authority whatever. But it does have the authority to call for public hearings. Isn't that what we need now?

## WE NEED A PUBLIC HEARING!

- Families affected are still suffering from homelessness and neglect! We need to hear from the community where the disaster happened and find out what housing and services are needed.
- To investigate the liability of Con Ed in this disaster. Could this have been prevented? What is Con Ed doing now to prevent future disasters? Are they doing all they can to make restitution to the community?
- What is the impact on small businesses?
- With unemployment so high in the neighborhood, Con Ed needs to hire unemployed workers from the community and pay for whatever job training is needed.
- We need an independent environmental impact study. Was fracking a factor?
- Con Ed claims that repairs and clean up will raise rates, but this is another fraud. With over \$1 billion in profits, Con Ed cannot be allowed to put the cost of clean-up on the public.

**Picket Con Edison's 2014 annual shareholders' meeting**  
**Monday, May 19, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., 4 Irving Place @ 14<sup>th</sup> Street**

**We'll be there to demand that community needs trumps shareholder greed.**

***Please volunteer—WE NEED YOUR HELP TO GET JUSTICE!***

**Issued by:** New Yorkers in Solidarity with the Survivors and Community of East Harlem/El Barrio • Community-Labor United for Postal Jobs & Services • People's Power Assembly • Parents to Improve School Transportation • Comité Timon de familiares y amigos de las personas con impedimentos • Fight Imperialism Stand Together (FIST) • Postal Defenders • Chelsea Coalition on Housing • May 1 Coalition for Worker and Immigrant Rights • Chelsea for Peace • Occu-Evolve • Teamsters Local Union 808 • National Action Network Youth (NAN) • Katrina/Rita Survivors •

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To help us find Peace with Justice for El Barrio or to endorse, contact us at the Solidarity Center (212) 633-6646 or contact [johnniestvns@aol.com](mailto:johnniestvns@aol.com) or 917-402-4755

*Labor donated 4/2014*