

Jim Doyle
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Governor Doyle Announces Additional Assistance for Dislocated Workers at Metal Technologies in West Allis

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle announced today the availability of additional reemployment services for all workers of Metal Technologies, Inc., West Allis Gray Iron Plant, in West Allis, who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after February 18, 2007. The workers were employed in the production of gray iron castings.

“With this additional federal funding, the affected workers can upgrade their skills and training to prepare for new jobs,” Governor Doyle said. “I am pleased we are able to offer assistance to these workers to help them reenter into the workforce, so they can support themselves and their families and enjoy all that life in Wisconsin has to offer.”

The services, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), are available through local Job Centers and funded through the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program. They include retraining and reemployment services tailored to meet the needs of individual workers. Major activities and services for which these workers may qualify for are:

- **Training** for employment in another job or career
- **Income Support**, known as trade readjustment allowances (TRA)
- **Job Search Allowance** to cover expenses incurred in seeking employment outside normal commuting areas
- **Relocation Allowances** for approved relocations expenses to relocate to a new area of employment.

“The additional services that we and our local partners are providing will help these workers return to the workforce, connecting them with employers in search of workers with the right skills,” said DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman.

Affected workers are also eligible to apply for Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA), which is available to workers aged 50 or older who possess skills that are not easily transferable. Qualifying workers who obtain new employment within 26 weeks of separation can receive a wage subsidy to help bridge the salary gap between their old and new employment. The program was designed to provide assistance to workers for whom the retraining offered under the regular TAA program may not be appropriate.

Individuals interested in receiving reemployment assistance should contact a local Job Center or visit <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dws/programs/dislocated/default.htm>. The nearest Job Center location can be found by calling (888) 258-9966 toll free.