

ArcelorMittal: Restart, but at what cost?

On March 25 2020, a meeting between the staff delegation and the management of ArcelorMittal took place. At that meeting, the management confirmed that it had taken the decision to **shut down Dommeldange** after three confirmed cases. This situation shows that no plant is at bay of the risk and that the fears of the OGBL were confirmed.

Health and safety before profit

As for now, all plants are on a hold, but the company asks to prepare for the restart. For the OGBL it is clear, that it is still too early to fix an exact date and that a **global security protocol must be put in place in order to guarantee the health and safety of all our colleagues**. The situation around us and the progression of the virus must also be taken into account before any hurried decision.

Short-time work

The management has informed the OGBL that **all sectors are concerned** by short-time work due to force majeure. Just a few colleagues must continue working to secure the plants and make sure that the vital points of the plants put in "survival mode" continue to function.

The staff representatives were informed that the **ArcelorMittal group has taken the decision to apply the rate of 80 %** instead of the 100 %, which the OGBL demanded. This decision is disappointing and will have negative consequences on the employees, as our trade union has warned. At the same time the management informed that they are evaluating the possibility to compensate the revenue for those who receive a salary beyond the threshold of 2,5 times the social minimum wage. **The OGBL disagrees on this decision and demands, that no employees, without any distinction, suffer any loss in income!**

The employees must first use all their historic holidays of 2019, as prescribed by the law. The OGBL would like to remind, that employees who are still working on the plants or are in home office, have a legal holiday or are on a sick leave, cannot be put into short-time work.

Additional meetings will take place in the coming days. We will keep you informed on the situation.

Stay well and in safety

Your delegates