

ASARCO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL LABOR REVIEW BOARD NOTIFICATION TO ASARCO

TUCSON Arizona – The National Labor Review Board (NLRB) has notified Asarco today that it will issue a complaint this afternoon concerning some of the unfair labor practice allegations filed by the unions. A judge will decide after a hearing whether Asarco committed unfair labor practices and, if so, whether the current strike was caused by those practices.

Starting just hours before going on strike on the weekend of July 4th, the Unions filed about 20 charges with the NLRB to justify their allegation that the reason for the strike was not economic.

The Company did not expect that any complaint would allege that the strike is an unfair labor practice strike, since the major issues in dispute were found to be unsubstantiated and were withdrawn by the Unions. In earlier statements, Union officials declared that they called the strike because Asarco had bargained in bad faith and refused to provide relevant information for the negotiations. The NLRB rejected these claims.

Asarco takes the position that the Union's remaining allegations were not the reason for the strike and that the judge will conclude that the strike, which started immediately after the Ray contract expired, was really called by Union officials to pressure Asarco into accepting the unions' bargaining proposals.

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