

CUSTOMER ADVISORY

CIRB Deems ILWU Strike Vote Illegal
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British Columbia Port Labor Dispute Update: CIRB Deems ILWU Strike Vote Illegal

The Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) [has deemed a recent strike vote by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union \(ILWU\) Local 514 illegal](#), directing the union to withdraw its strike notice. The strike had been set to target DP World (Canada) Inc., one of the employer members of the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA), as early as 4:30pm on July 8th. Potential defensive lockout actions by the BCMEA could impact cargo operations along Canada's West Coast. Here's what you need to know:

Key Information:

- **CIRB Ruling:** The CIRB ruled that the ILWU Local 514 did not engage in good faith bargaining, rendering their strike vote illegal.
- **Strike Notice:** The union's intended strike action was scheduled to begin on Monday, July 8th, at 4:30 p.m. PT.
- **Lockout Notice:** The BCMEA has issued a formal notice for a defensive lockout to commence on Tuesday, July 9th, at 4:30 p.m. PT, which would halt all cargo operations of BCMEA member companies across the province, excluding cruise operations and longshoring operations on grain vessels.

- **Federal Mediation:** Federal mediators are actively working with both parties to reach a resolution at the bargaining table.
- **Economic Impact:** The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) has highlighted the significant economic repercussions of port disruptions and is calling for essential designation of port work to prevent future strikes.

[You can read the CIRB decision at this link.](#)

KWE aims to mitigate any disruptions to client supply chains and will continue to monitor the situation as it develops. We will continue to provide timely updates and support to ensure the continuity of your cargo operations. For further assistance, please contact your KWE representative.