

KEITH ELLISON

5TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

2263 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4755

2100 PLYMOUTH AVENUE NORTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55411
(612) 522-1212

ellison.house.gov

TWITTER: @keithellison



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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 16, 2018

Alan Shaw
Major Appliances North America
President
AB Electrolux
10200 David Taylor Drive
Charlotte, N.C. 28262

Dear Mr. Shaw:

I write to urge you to reconsider the decision to close the Electrolux factory in St. Cloud, Minnesota and move these jobs to South Carolina. I am certain you are aware of the harm this decision will cause to workers and their families, as it will leave nearly 1,000 people without jobs, 900 of whom are Machinists Union members.

Moving the plant to a non-union facility in South Carolina is an attack on unions and American workers. Minnesotans have worked at this plant for generations before Electrolux acquired it, and the factory continues to play a vital role in St. Cloud's community and economy. Electrolux is one of the top five employers in the city. If the factory closes, St. Cloud will lose 17 percent of its total manufacturing jobs. The community will be devastated while Electrolux receives a tax break.


While Electrolux believes that retraining workers affected by the move is an acceptable solution, I respectfully disagree. Retraining is preferable to leaving workers jobless, but you cannot deny your decision to move this factory will undermine the economic stability of your workers. Similarly, asking workers to move with Electrolux to South Carolina is cruel and unrealistic. Workers and their families should not have to uproot their lives and move across the country so Electrolux can increase their profits and evade unionized workers. Keeping this factory open will continue providing jobs to new Americans, as one fourth of the workforce are Somali workers.¹

¹ Dickerll, Stephanie. *The St. Cloud Times*. <https://www.sctimes.com/story/news/local/2018/02/10/were-here-help-electrolux-employees-state-and-local-officials-meet-plan-next-steps-after-closure/326272002/>

I urge you to consider the enormous consequences this move will have on the St. Cloud community, especially the workers who have made Electrolux's success possible. It is my understanding that over the last decade, Electrolux moved several of its factories in search of cheap labor. I hope the potential economic devastation, as well as the workers' commitment to Electrolux, will convince you to reverse your decision to close the St. Cloud factory.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

cc: Jonas Samuelson
President and Chief Executive Officer
AB Electrolux
SE-105 45 Stockholm, Sweden