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Fox Valley Workforce Development Board Ready to Assist Clearwater Paper Workers

The Fox Valley Workforce Development Board, a regional 501(c)3 dedicated to creating the workforce of tomorrow, is poised to provide services to the 285 workers who will lose their jobs when Clearwater Paper Corporation closes its Neenah plant at 249 N. Lake Street in July 2021.

CEO Anthony Snyder says his office is working on setting up a rapid response meeting for employees to explain the services offered through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which includes resume assistance, job search planning, skills assessment and retraining for a new role. All services are free and covered by the U.S. Department of Labor's WIOA funds.

According to a notification from Clearwater, the plant includes workers represented by Local 2-482 of the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union, as well as salaried supervisor and management personnel. The plant is to be completely closed, but nothing has been announced about the future of the property as of this time.

Said Snyder, “Losing a job can be a traumatic, life altering experience for anyone, but your workforce board and staff at the local job center are ready to assist you with this transition. Thankfully, a robust labor market means these workers will have lots of opportunities for future employment, with or without retraining.”

Workforce board staff will conduct an in-person meetings with union members tomorrow and general information sessions for all employees later in the month. A private job fair is being planned for next week with employers offering similar manufacturing roles.

Workers who are impacted by this closure do not need to wait for any of the in-person meetings, but instead can reach out to the Fox Cities Job Center, 1802 Appleton Road, Menasha, to schedule an appointment with a WIOA career planner.

For more information or to get started in determining your best next step, complete the info form at www.foxvalleyjobcenters.com or call 920-997-3272. The WIOA Dislocated Worker program is available to anyone laid off or soon to be laid off from any employer.

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Fox Valley Workforce Development Board (FVWDB) is a not-for-profit working to build a world-class workforce in northeast Wisconsin. Serving six counties — Calumet, Green Lake, Fond du Lac, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago — FVWDB collaborates with a number of state and local agencies to help job seekers gain the skills needed to find employment, and to help businesses find the highly skilled workers they need.

FVWDB is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider.

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