UPTE-CWA 9119 Resolution in support of climate action to benefit our workers

Whereas the Eastern US is trapped under hazardous wildfire smoke, and an anticipated 2023-2024 El Niño event will increase the risk of flooding, heatwaves, and fires in California,

Whereas UPTE workers have already been impacted by fires, wildfire smoke, extreme heat, and flooding, in some cases losing their worksites, cars, and even homes,

Whereas UPTE is a founding member of California Labor for Climate Jobs (CLCJ), a coalition of 15+ unions including CFT, SEIU 1021, and AFSCME 3299, that advocates for state policy and a worker-led transition to build a climate-safe economy that decreases inequality,

Whereas UPTE has already passed resolutions in support of climate action in 2019 and 2022, and responding UPTE members have already indicated their majority support for UPTE to pursue climate action through GND committee surveys conducted in 2021 and 2022,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

UPTE-CWA 9119 calls for solutions to the climate crisis at all levels of government and the UC that include labor protections such as prevailing wages, project labor agreements, establishment of card-check neutrality agreements, direct partnerships with joint

labor-management apprenticeship programs, and legislation protecting the right to organize unions and bargain collectively; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UPTE-CWA 9119 will work for a fair and equitable transition through CLCJ and in coalition with other UC unions, seeking wage replacement/wage insurance for impacted workers, pension guarantees and severance packages, healthcare benefits, retraining opportunities, and targeted provisions for low-income and BIPOC communities who face disproportionate climate pollution; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UPTE-CWA 9119 calls for the UC to achieve 95% Scope 1 and 2 decarbonization by 2035 with comprehensive worker protections, in line with demands made by the UC Academic Senate and the UC GND Coalition; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UPTE-CWA 9119’s GND committee will plan and host one climate and workplace health-focused town hall within the next year and provide a platform to record any extreme weather impacts our members face.

Respectfully submitted by:

Brianna McGuire, Secretary, UPTE-CWA 9119 Chapter 6 UCD, co-chair UPTE GND Committee