



## **News Release**

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### **Workers at Essex Group, Inc. in Vincennes eligible for federal aid**

INDIANAPOLIS (March 27, 2008) – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development today announced a ruling by the U.S. Department of Labor that former employees of Essex Group, Inc. in Vincennes are eligible to receive services under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program.

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country.

The federal ruling was issued on March 21, 2008 and applies to all workers of the company who will become totally or partially separated from employment on or after March 4, 2007 through March 21, 2010.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees must file a petition with the Department of Labor and it must be approved before benefits can be released. Workers at the facility produce copper and aluminum magnet wire.

The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

In addition, the Department of Labor also issued a certification for alternative trade adjustment assistance (ATAA) for separated older workers at the company. It was found that a significant number of workers at the company age 50 or over possess skills that are not easily transferable and that competitive conditions within the industry are adverse. Older workers may choose between regular TAA benefits or a wage subsidy of 50% of the difference between their new salary and old salary, up to \$10,000.

Eligible parties may obtain information at their local WorkOne center. A listing of all of the centers can be found at [http://www.in.gov/dwd/employers/workone\\_centers.html](http://www.in.gov/dwd/employers/workone_centers.html)