October 4, 2019

Mary Barra
Chief Executive Officer
General Motors
300 Renaissance Ctr
Detroit, MI 48243

Dear Ms. Barra,

As a coalition of many of our nation’s largest labor unions and environmental organizations, we stand firm in solidarity with members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) as they fight for fair wages, job security, and fair treatment at General Motors. The workers on the picket lines at GM facilities across the nation—and their leadership—are bargaining in good faith for a better future for themselves, their families, their communities, and our nation.

We share their belief that sustaining and building a fair and prosperous nation depends on building the clean and advanced technologies of the future in the United States, and creating and sustaining good-paying, union jobs doing so.

As the world moves to build cleaner vehicle technologies to meet the challenges brought by the climate crisis, America should be the leader in the innovation and production of these vehicles. Automotive workers and companies have shown how highly skilled and trained workers who are appropriately compensated, and have an effective voice at work in healthy and safe facilities, can and do build the best, most advanced, and most competitive vehicles, components, and materials in the world. Unfortunately, more and more workers don’t work under these conditions—threatening both our economy and our long-term technological leadership.

When times were tough, the American people—and GM’s workers—sacrificed to save GM and reinvest in this critical industry. Workers made concessions, and taxpayers rescued the company when it needed it the most. Now when times are good and the company has achieved record profits, GM should stand by its workers and the communities and taxpayers who have stood by the company in the bad times.

GM workers deserve a fair contract—one that provides fair and equitable wages and access to affordable healthcare for employees and their families, real job security, and the ongoing training and investment needed to build the advanced vehicle technologies of the future in the United States.

We support UAW as they demand fair treatment for all workers. We also support efforts to push back on “in progression” or “temporary” employee classifications used to deny workers fair and equal pay, and we support reasonable limits on outsourcing and subcontracting work. Driving down wages and job standards for the next generation is not only unjust, but also shortsighted.
GM has the opportunity to build the next generation of clean, fuel-efficient and advanced vehicles here in the United States. Americans deserve to see the company they saved invest here in the United States, keeping our communities strong, leading the way in innovation, and showing the people who put their trust in your company that it was well deserved.

We stand with workers and urge GM to do the right thing and negotiate a fair contract now. We call on you to show true leadership and rely on American workers to build the future of the auto industry here in America. It is the right thing to do for your company, workers, taxpayers, and the long-term interests of GM's shareholders.

Sincerely,

BlueGreen Alliance
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
League of Conservation Voters
Natural Resources Defense Council
Sierra Club
Union of Concerned Scientists
United Steelworkers
Utility Workers Union of America