

March 1, 2009

Vice President Biden commented on *Serious Materials Chicago* factory reopening: "The reopening of this factory and the rehiring of these workers provide an excellent example of how the money in the Recovery Act is targeted to spur job creation quickly. These workers will not only earn a paycheck again; they will go back to work creating products that will benefit America's long-term economic future."



Fredrico Martinez, who joined other workers in a prayer vigil, said he had worked at the factory for nine years. **Photo Credit:** Beth Rooney for The New York Times

The #1 Energy Culprit is Windows

- The 'built environment' is responsible for 52% of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, far greater than automobiles or transportation in general.
- 39% of all energy and CO₂ is tied to building operations, of which 38% is used for heating and cooling.
- 5% of all U.S. energy is lost through inefficient windows. This is equivalent to 100 million people driving a Prius instead of their older car.
- SeriousWindows super-insulating full frame R-5 to R-11 windows can reduce heating and cooling use up to 50%
- If all buildings were to use SeriousWindows technology, CO₂ emissions would be reduced by over 200 million metric tons annually.



The Rev. Jesse Jackson, delivering a bag of food, was among the visiting leaders who met with the workers over the weekend. **Photo Credit:** Beth Rooney for The New York Times

Chicago, Illinois

A Recovery Act Success Story

December 5, 2008	Republic Windows & Doors closes its doors after being in business since 1965. The factory's 260 workers, members of the union United Electricla, Radio and Machine Wokers, stage sit-in of the plant in protest of unpaid severance and vacation wages.
December 7, 2008	At a news conference Sunday, President-elect Barack Obama said the company should follow through on its commitments to its workers.
December 15, 2008	Republic Windows and Doors files for bankruptcy.
February 26, 2009	Serious Materials announces asset acquisition of Republic Windows & Doors
April 2009	More than 20 former Republic union workers have been rehired by Serious Materials.
By the End of 2009	260 former Republic union workers and up to 600 total employees
Jobs Created in the Network	1200 (For every worker hired, another two are hired by partners to install the windows, including window dealers, installers, energy auditors, etc.)



Workers laid off from a Chicago factory on Saturday at what they called an occupation of the plant. They criticized their former bosses, the company's creditors and the federal government. **Photo Credit:** : Beth Rooney for The New York Times

The ARRA and Energy-Saving Building Materials Save Jobs

One of the main tenets of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is to spur job creation as part of a sustainable U.S. economy. Serious Materials' recently-acquired plants in Vandergrift, PA and Chicago, IL provide excellent examples of putting skilled manufacturing workers back on the job, while improving energy security, environmental performance, and the economy.

ARRA funds provide a win-win through which the creation of green jobs that will also simultaneously slow the progress of climate change. Effective implementation of ARRA is essential to Serious Materials' plans to continue expansion to meet increased demand and create jobs in not only our new and previously existing plants, but also to the entire green building value chain.

ARRA provides funding for energy-saving buildings materials in many areas:

- In low income weatherization
- In private homes, with Sec 25C tax credits
- In refurbishment of public and assisted housing
- In refurbishment of schools
- In improving other local, state and federal buildings



Save energy.
Save money.
Create green jobs.
Build green.



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