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# Mill workers could walk off the job

CHBC News, Kelowna: Friday, March 25, 2011

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Approximately 600 members from Tolko Mills in Kelowna and Armstrong, the Vener Plant in Lumby and the Weyerhaeuser Mill in Princeton could walk off the job.

Photo Credit: CHBC News, File

Hundreds of mill workers in our region could soon be walking the picket line.

Members of the United Steelworkers gave their union a strike mandate Friday.

Approximately 600 members from Tolko Mills in Kelowna and Armstrong, the Vener Plant in Lumby and the Weyerhaeuser Mill in Princeton could walk off the job.

The members are part of a larger group in the Southern Interior who has been without a contract for more than a year.

Union president Bruce Gardner says


the main issues surround contract language and wages.

Gardner says he is frustrated because other mills in northern B.C. settled similar contract issues last year.

There may still be a chance of avoiding job action: negotiators have set aside three days next week to meet.

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