



MANTENO COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

July 20, 2026

Chris LaRoque
Village of Manteno
98 East Third Street
Manteno, Illinois 60950

Re: Follow-Up Fire Brigade Staffing Inspection – Gotion Illinois New Energy, LLC

Dear Chris LaRoque:

The Manteno Community Fire Protection District conducted a follow-up inspection of the Gotion Illinois battery manufacturing facility to evaluate fire brigade staffing during weekend operations.

On Saturday, July 18, 2026, two (2) fire brigade members were present on-site. Eric Dockus advised District personnel that Gotion was in the process of hiring five (5) additional fire brigade members.

The inspection confirmed that the facility did not have six (6) qualified fire brigade members on-site on July 18. The District acknowledges the reported hiring effort; however, because the facility's hazards exist continuously, the required brigade staffing level must be maintained twenty-four (24) hours per day and cannot be limited to weekday production or a single shift. As a result, the District considers the facility's current fire protection posture insufficient for the site's hazard profile. Continued noncompliance endangers Manteno residents, Gotion employees, and responding firefighters.

This determination is consistent with the Village's July 9, 2026 correspondence to Gotion, which requires six (6) basic-operation-trained fire brigade members per shift, present and available on-site twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week, including one qualified Incident Commander and one qualified Incident Safety Officer.

The District requests that the Village continue to recognize and enforce this requirement in all matters involving Gotion Illinois New Energy, LLC.



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Respectfully,

Richard Petersen

Fire Chief

Manteno Community Fire Protection District