HOW TO SET UP A BOYCOTT COMMITTEE

1. Arrange a small planning meeting as soon as possible. Invite key people who would be receptive to the strike issues from environmental, health, student, political and community organizations. Also invite representatives of local trade unions, such as OCAW, UAW, or from the AFL-CIO Central Labor Council.

2. Discuss the strike issues. Form a small working group which will take responsibility for contacting other organizations. One person should investigate Shell involvement locally; where Shell offices and gas stations are, who the largest buyers of Shell fuel oil are, etc.

3. Set a date for a meeting which will include people from as many organizations as possible. Contact transportation associations, sportsmen's clubs, health associations, welfare and tenants rights organizations, civic groups such as PTA's and the League of Women Voters, church groups, political organizations, existing boycott committees, environment and campus groups and representatives of local government. Send them literature before the meeting.

4. Call the National Committee to Support the Shell Strike - (202)223-4188 - and request a speaker to come and talk about the issues.

5. The larger meeting should be a time for a detailed explanation of the strike issues. Outline local strategy and tactics for supporting the boycott. As a start, you might try to plan activities around Earth Week (April 8-15) and aim for major actions such as rallies or mass leafletting on April 26, the date of Shell's annual stockholder meeting.

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

1. Find out what role Shell plays in your community. Does your apartment owner, city government or university buy fuel oil from Shell? If so, get them to switch to another company.

2. Demonstrate at Shell offices. Check the phone book for addresses. (Even small cities have them.) Design imaginative picket signs and wear gas masks. Pass out strike and boycott information.

3. Picket Shell Service Stations. This is an important part of making the boycott work. Dealer addresses are listed in the phone book under Shell. Distribute literature explaining the boycott to motorists before they actually drive into the station.

4. Distribute literature. Set up tables on campuses, near public events, and in busy shopping areas. Some literature is available directly from the National Committee. Local groups should attempt to prepare imaginative literature that will reflect their own interests in supporting the workers and fighting Shell.

5. Make sure to get press coverage. The more people who find out about the boycott, the more Shell will worry. If a community coalition plans to hold a major action, issue a press release or hold a press conference beforehand.