

Union sees no strike on Tuesday

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A spokesman for the Civil Service Employees Association has virtually ruled out the possibility of a strike by the massive public employe union this Tuesday.

"The possibility of a job action Tuesday is extremely unlikely because of the timing involved," CSEA spokesman Roger Cole said Wednesday. "It just wouldn't make good common sense."

The union, which is awaiting a fact-finding report in a contract dispute with the state, had originally threatened to strike at midnight Monday if no agreement had been reached by then.

But Cole said while the CSEA expects the fact-finders' report by the end of this week, it may not be able to complete a full membership vote on it by late Monday. Cole said the union, which represents 147,000 state workers, doesn't really expect the state to approve the agreement by Monday, either, especially because final approval must come from the legislature.

A strike on Tuesday, he said, would only harm the union's position in the meantime.