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Support for Item 4 CCEC Agenda 8-29-2025

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Public Comment – Support for Item 4

Speaker: Tracy Scott, retired USW Local 5 staff representative

Good morning, Chair Hochschild, Commissioners. My name is Tracy Scott, retired staff representative with United Steelworkers Local 5. I'm speaking **in strong support of Item 4** to adopt staff's recommendation on the **Maximum Gross Gasoline Refining Margin and Penalty Implementation Timeline**. [California Energy Commission E-Filing](#)

California is in a mid-transition phase: demand for petroleum fuels is declining, but we still rely on in-state refining for reliability and price stability. Moving too quickly to impose a maximum refining margin could have **unintended consequences**—discouraging needed maintenance and investment, increasing outage risks, and even hastening refinery exits that would tighten supply and raise volatility for consumers. Staff's proposal recognizes these risks and proposes a prudent pause. [California Energy Commission](#)

I appreciate that Item 4 **postpones margin-cap implementation for at least ten years** while the Commission prioritizes a **sector-wide managed transition strategy**—including tools like minimum inventory and resupply planning. That timeline spans at least two full turnaround cycles, which is essential for planning, worker safety, and regulatory compliance. It's a balanced path that protects consumers **and** the workforce while the state continues building out clean alternatives. [California Energy Commission](#)

As you move forward, I urge the Commission to:

1. Formalize robust **labor participation** in any managed transition proceedings.
2. Maintain **transparency** on market data and reliability metrics; and
3. Set clear **milestones** for when and how the Commission will revisit a margin cap if consumer benefits ultimately outweigh costs under Public Resources Code §25355.5. [California Energy Commission](#)

For these reasons, I respectfully urge an **Aye** vote on Item 4. Thank you.