

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	23-SB-02
<b>Project Title:</b>	SB 2 Implementation
<b>TN #:</b>	250091
<b>Document Title:</b>	Independent Committee Nomination - Michael Smith
<b>Description:</b>	Nomination of Michael Smith to the Independent Consumer Fuels Advisory Committee by United Steelworkers, District 12
<b>Filer:</b>	Andrea Baley
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	5/11/2023 8:25:41 AM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	5/11/2023



**District 12**

**Gaylan Z. Prescott**  
District Director

May 2, 2023

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: United Steelworkers nominates Michael Smith as the labor representative to the Independent Consumer Fuels Advisory Committee.**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the members of District 12 of the United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union (USW), I write to you regarding the nomination for the labor representative to the Independent Consumer Fuels Advisory Committee (Committee) established as part of CA S.B. 2 to advise the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Commission) and its newly created Division of Petroleum Market Oversight (Division).

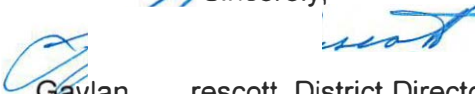
As you know, our union represents the direct workforce at oil refineries in the state. This includes operators, maintenance workers, and more. There is no single group of constituents who are more impacted by the decisions of oil companies regarding their operations in California. For this reason, we urge you to nominate a member of USW to serve on this important advisory committee.

Michael Smith is uniquely positioned to be an extremely valuable member of the Committee. For thirteen years, Mr. Smith worked as an operator in the hydroprocessing unit at the Chevron Refinery in Richmond, CA, where he became an active member of United Steelworkers Local 5. He served in multiple roles with the local's health and safety committee during his time as an operator before becoming a full-time staff representative for the union in 2012. In 2017, Mr. Smith sat on the Cal/OSHA Committee with the goal of promoting and improving occupational health and safety conditions and public safety in California.

Mr. Smith moved into a new role to lead our union's members in the oil sector across the country when he became the Chair of USW's National Oil Bargaining Program in September 2019. In this capacity, he represents 30,000 workers across 220 individual sites in the United States, and assists each local in bargaining a fair contract that includes good-paying, family-sustaining wages. He assesses and utilizes production and financial data for refiners across the industry and is well-versed in the implications of corporate decisions on health and safety, worker pay, and community impacts. There is no one in the labor movement as demonstratively qualified to advise the Commission and Division.

Our union strongly urges you to nominate Mike Smith as the labor representative on the Committee. Further background materials are attached. We look forward to the productive conversations between the Committee, Division, and Commission that will result.

Sincerely,



Gaylan . rescott, District Director  
United Steelworkers (USW) District 12

## **Michael Smith**

### **Chair, National Oil Bargaining Program United Steelworkers (USW)**

#### **Chevron Richmond Refinery – 2002-2015**

- Hydroprocessing Unit Operator
- Served as a Health & Safety Representative for USW
- Participated in all process safety management (PSM) elements, including incident investigations
- Served as a Member, Vice Chair, and Chair of the Workers' Committee
- Served as a union representative that worked with outside agencies, including the Chemical Safety Board, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency after the August 2012 Chevron Richmond fire

#### **United Steelworkers Local 5 – 2012-2018**

- Hired as a Staff Representative for USW Local 5
  - Local 5 represents workers at the following California facilities: Chevron Richmond Refinery, PBF Martinez Refinery, and Marathon in Martinez
- Represented Local 5 on the Refinery Action Collaborative (RAC)
  - The RAC was formed after the Chevron Richmond fire
  - Other organizations in the RAC include: Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN), National Resources Defense Council (NRDC), BlueGreen Alliance (BGA), Labor Occupational Health Program (LOHP) at UC Berkeley, and USW International
- Served as a Labor Representative on the State of California's Department of Industrial Relations' (DIR) Cal/OSHA Advisory Committee
- Represented USW throughout the update of the California PSM regulation 5189.1, including representing workers interacting with DIR and the Governor's Interagency Refinery Task Force

#### **United Steelworkers International – 2018-Current**

- Assisted with 2019 National Oil Bargaining
- Named the Chair of the National Oil Bargaining Program in September 2019
- Led the 2022 National Oil Bargaining
- Served as Vice President (workers' representative) in the 2022 International Labor Organization's technical meeting on the "Future of Work in the Oil and Gas Sector"