

Via E-mail and Certified Mail

Gary Beevers
International Vice President

The Honorable Neil Abercrombie
Governor, State of Hawaii
Executive Chambers, State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Governor Abercrombie,

We are writing regarding the announced closure of the Tesoro Refinery in Kapolei, Hawaii. As you know Tesoro has announced plans to stop production at the Kapolei refinery later this year and convert the facility to a terminal and storage facility. This shutdown will likely eliminate as many as 250 family sustaining refinery jobs as well as up to 2,500 related jobs. Additionally, our analysts predict that the closure of the refinery could lead to increased fuel cost vulnerability in Hawaii and the potential of significant price spikes.

It is our understanding that your administration is in the process of convening a committee to examine the closure of the facility, its impact on the state, and coordinate efforts to save the refinery and protect the state's economy. It is also our understanding that you have chosen not to invite the United Steelworkers to join that committee. We believe that it would be a huge mistake for your administration to exclude the United Steelworkers from this process.

The United Steelworkers is the leading petroleum refining union in North America representing 78% of US oil refining capacity. We represent the production and maintenance workers at the Kapolei refinery—all of who stand to lose their jobs if the refinery is allowed to shut down. Not only do we represent the workers directly impacted by the plant closure, we have the expertise and experience to partner with the State of Hawaii in saving these jobs and protecting Hawaii's economy.

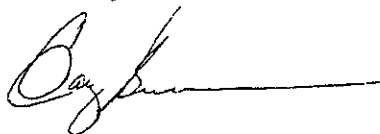
You may have heard about our recent efforts in saving the refining sector on the East Coast last year. On the East Coast the United Steelworkers partnered with local, state, and federal officials to encourage Sunoco and Conoco Phillips to proactively engage in a process to sell the refineries, address regulatory issues in a sustainable way, and attract qualified buyers to operate two large refineries.

We understand that your administration has made promoting green energy a priority for the state. As you know our union has been among the leading advocates for green energy initiatives—both on our own and in partnership with the Sierra Club and several other labor and environmental organizations through the Blue Green Alliance. We are, of course, interested in working with your administration to promote green energy solutions in Hawaii, but as you know, it's undeniable that refined petroleum products will remain an essential portion of Hawaii's energy mix for years to come.

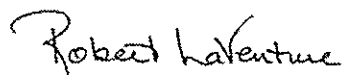
Allowing this refinery to shut down only to create space for increased imports from less regulated refiners in India and Asia does nothing to address our shared concern for the environment. In fact off-shoring refining capacity will not only have a negative impact on the state's economy, it will dramatically increase the environmental impacts of oil consumption.

We look forward to your timely response to our correspondence and we look forward to your invitation to participate in this important process to save the Kapolei refinery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Beevers", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary Beevers,
International Vice President, National Oil Bargaining

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert LaVenture", with a stylized, cursive font.

Robert LaVenture
USW Director, District 12

c: Senator Brian Schatz
Senator Mazie Hirono
Representative Colleen Hanabusa
Representative Tulsi Gabbard