

The office was tasked in the bill with submitting a report within 30 months after the law takes effect on "the costs and benefits of the Earned Sick Time Act," including data on wage and employment rates comparing New York to surrounding areas.

The budget office also has the power to delay the start date of the law beyond April 1, 2014, if it determines the New York economy is performing worse at the end of this year compared with a year earlier.

Figueroa was confident that the independent evaluation would not prevent the law from materializing or stall it. "Our experience with Connecticut has been that businesses made the transition—the economy adjusts to the initial change," he said. "I'm very optimistic that the commission will find that the decision was not as daunting as some folks believed."

BY BEN PENN

## California

### Chevron Enters PLA With Contra Costa Building Trades for Renovation of Refinery

**T**he Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council has entered into a project labor agreement with Chevron U.S.A. Inc. for a renovation project on the Richmond Refinery in California, the building trades council announced June 28.

The Richmond Refinery Modernization project is expected to create 1,000 union construction jobs, the building trades council announced.

According to a statement from the building trades, construction workers will be updating and replacing old equipment in the refinery. Bringing new technology to the refinery will increase safety and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the building trades said.

"Our members are anxious to get to work on this project, and we look forward to partnering with the Richmond Refinery to help it modernize its facility so that it can continue to serve as a major economic engine and jobs creator for Richmond [Calif.], and the region. With this agreement in place we will also be promoting local jobs, apprenticeship opportunities and the Helmets to Hardhats Program," Greg Feere, president of the building trades council, said in a statement.

Feere told BNA that there are several local hire programs in Contra Costa that Chevron and the council will partner with to recruit local residents for jobs on the project. The agreement, Feere said, does not include a specific number or percentage for fulfilling the local hire requirement. However, the building trades council will be working very closely with Chevron to ensure local workers are hired for the project, Feere said.

"Chevron has changed drastically over the years. I think they are really committed to local hiring," Feere told BNA.

Additionally, the agreement promotes having apprentices work on the project and recruiting former military personnel for jobs through the Helmets to Hardhats program, Feere said. The agreement also includes a clause against discrimination in hiring.

"We look forward to partnering with labor to move the project forward in an open and transparent permitting process," Richmond Refinery General Manager Kory Judd said in a statement.

Richmond city government plans to release an environmental impact report in early 2014. The Richmond City Council is expected to give its final approval on the project near the end of 2014, Feere said.

BY JEWEL EDWARDS

## California

### Solano County, Calif. Ferry Gets Project Labor Agreement for Expansion

**S**AN FRANCISCO—California's authority over water transportation in the San Francisco Bay Area adopted a project labor agreement June 27 to cover a \$22 million ferry maintenance, passenger, and administration facility on the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, Calif.

The San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority (WETA) board approved the PLA for work on the project, and WETA and land developer Lennar Mare Island (LMI) are in a draft agreement phase. The request for design build proposals was released July 3 with proposals due Aug. 1.

Construction is scheduled to begin later this year and be finished by 2015, according to the city of Vallejo, which is developing parcels on the shipyard.

The agreement includes WETA, LMI, and the Napa-Solano Building & Construction Trades Council. It covers a project to transform a building on the shuttered naval fueling station, allow 48,000 gallons of diesel fuel storage, construct five berths, build maintenance and administration offices, improve the waterfront, and enhance public access.

Once the job is completed, WETA will offer ferry service to residents and workers on Mare Island to the existing Vallejo terminal and all of its routes, including ferries to San Francisco.

**Work Covered.** The agreement covers: all on-site site preparation; surveying; construction; alteration; demolition; installation; painting or repair of buildings, structures, and other works; and related activities for the project that are within the craft jurisdiction of one of the unions and directly or indirectly part of the project.

The crafts signing the agreement include Carpenters Local 46 Northern California Counties Conference Board; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 180; District Council No. 16 International Union of Painters and Allied Trades; United Association of Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 343; Northern California District Council of Laborers; Operating Engineers Local Union 3; International Association of Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers Local Union 378; Sheet Metal Workers Local Union 104; United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers Local Union 81; Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons locals 300 and 400; Sprinkler Fitters Local Union 483; International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local Union 315; and Underground Utility-Landscape Local Union 355.

WETA was established by 2008 legislation (S.B. 976) intended to improve the ability of ferries to respond in an emergency when disasters mean waterways may be the only alternative to roads, bridges, and the Bay Area Rapid Transit system. The San Francisco Bay Ferry al-