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**California Food and Drug Council Prepares for  
Tesco's Arrival in California and Southwest**

**Labor Leaders From 26 Affiliates Meet to Develop Strategy in  
Response to British Supermarket Chain's 'Fresh and Easy' Stores**

Los Angeles (Oct. 10, 2007) — Members of the California Food and Drug Council met this week to prepare a united response to the arrival of British supermarket company Tesco in California and the Southwest.

Labor leaders from Southern and Northern California, Nevada and Arizona attended the meeting.

Tesco says it hopes to capture one-sixth of the American retail food market with its new Fresh and Easy chain of small "neighborhood" style stores. Fresh and Easy markets are expected to open in Arizona, Nevada and Southern California beginning in early November.

"Tesco's stores in the United Kingdom are staffed by union employees," said Paul Kenny, president of the Food and Drug Council and secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 630. "But for some reason they decided to make their American operation non-union."

"We need to be on our guard after reading headlines about Tesco's use of child labor in Bangladesh and its Wal-Mart-like business tactics," Kenny said. "We are firmly committed to protecting the rights and dignity of all working people in the United States."

The Food and Drug Council coordinates strategy for unions engaged in the retail food and drug industries. It also educates the public about the benefits of working and buying union.

The Council's constituents include the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the United Food and Commercial Workers, the International Union of Operating Engineers and the International Longshore and Warehouse Union. The affiliates represent approximately 200,000 union workers throughout California.

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