

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

SEPTEMBER 2023

EMPLOYEE: Michael DeSmet

UNIT: Underground Storage Tank Enforcement

TITLE: Engineering Geologist

SUPERVISOR: Galvin Kauffman, Senior Engineering Geologist

Michael DeSmet is an Engineering Geologist in the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Enforcement Unit at the Rancho Cordova office. Michael joined the Water Boards in December 2021. In less than two years, Michael has become a team player and a resource in his unit and in other units. Michael is excelling at his growing workload and project diversity. Due to Michael's actions that go above and beyond his work expectations, Michael is being recognized for his excellent contributions to the UST and Site Cleanup Programs.

In the past year, Michael added 14 cases to his workload. Michael stepped in for staff who is on leave to manage seven of their existing cases. In the past year, Michael opened four UST cases and three new Site Cleanup cases after identifying other contaminant releases that presented a risk. Michael also volunteered to manage an old landfill case and represent the Water Boards in local agency meetings about a burn dump. Michael also volunteered to be the go-to person for West Law property searches for the tanks section. While increasing his workload, Michael continues to meet existing project deadlines and is very responsive to stakeholders.

As a valuable member of the UST Enforcement Unit, Michael is willing to learn new skills and programs, help other staff, and accept new types of assignments within his duty statement. For these reasons and more, Michael is well-deserving of this Employee Recognition Award.