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The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Members of the United Steelworkers have approved a new three-year contract with U.S. Steel.

The union said in a statement Friday that members ratified the contract by a margin of about four to one.

Both sides of the negotiating team had announced the agreement earlier this month.

The union said the contract provides for 4.5 percent in wage increases over the next three years and protects health care benefits for retirees. It covers more than 16,000 workers in Pennsylvania, Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Ohio.

U.S. Steel previously said the agreement is in the company's best interest.

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