

FW: [EXTERNAL] WHAT!!!?? Natel wants a 25-ft tall, 5,500 square foot hydraulic test facility on the north side of Building 23 at 2401 Monarch Street."

From: Shelby S <sheehan.shelby@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2024 3:39 PM

To: Trish Spencer <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>; Tony Daysog <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>; Steven Buckley <sbuckley@alamedaca.gov>; Allen Tai <ATai@alamedaca.gov>; Planning <Planning@alamedaca.gov>; Historical Board <historicalboard@alamedaca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] WHAT!!!?? Natel wants a 25-ft tall, 5,500 square foot hydraulic test facility on the north side of Building 23 at 2401 Monarch Street."

Councilmembers-

One must always be on alert. Here is the next Planning Board meeting item for Natel. sneaky sneaky.

This is City staff who are intentionally lying about environmental review. Steven Buckley is the liar on this one.

You JUST talked about this at City Council so who is directing these jokers to lie like this?
and WHY?

The Planning Board has no idea that they need a Certificate of Approval.

#1. Where is the Historical Advisory Board review? Right, its not there. Hello Biological Restrictions! The City is supposed to contact USFWS and get their comments, in addition to HAB review.

#2. No Project at Alameda Point is categorically exempt from CEQA--all Projects fall under the AP EIR and the CEQA regulation with an "Exemption Exception" due to impacts on historic resources.

Maybe Steven Buckley should read the Alameda Zoning Code.

What exactly is it going to take for Council to stop this madness?

I just sent you guys the Zoning Codes and Historical guidelines AGAIN 2 weeks ago, so please intervene.

5-A [2024-3980](#) PLN24-0059 - 2401 Monarch Street - Use Permit & Design Review -
Applicant: Gregor Cadman for Natel Energy. A public hearing to
consider a Use Permit to allow outdoor research and development, and
outdoor storage. **The project also consists of Design Review for an
approximately twenty-five foot tall, 5,500 square foot hydraulic test
facility on the north side of Building 23 at 2401 Monarch Street.** This
project qualifies for a Class 32 Categorical Exemption pursuant to
CEQA Guidelines 15332 - infill development. No additional
environmental review is necessary.

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 Operations Plan](#)
[Exhibit 2 Design Review Plans](#)
[Exhibit 3 Draft Resolution](#)

<https://alameda.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6633951&GUID=67D0D8D4-A313-4135-82A3-A1BE25AA76C3>

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Shelby
510-435-9263



Alameda Chamber & Economic Alliance
2215-A S Shore Center
Alameda, CA 94501
T: (510) 522-0414
madlen@alamedachamber.com

April 16, 2024

Dear Planning Board Members,

Alameda Chamber & Economic Alliance supports Natel Energy's Use Permit application to expand their hydraulic testing facility, located at their headquarters at Alameda Point.

The Chamber believes that embracing sustainable energy solutions is essential for mitigating environmental concerns and fostering economic growth and resilience.

Natel has been part of the fabric of Alameda Point since 2010. In this time, they have been a strong community partner, committed to responsible growth. Their proposal is consistent with the existing look and feel of the neighborhood and they have worked with City staff to ensure all conditions have been met.

As a hydropower technology company, Natel Energy adds significant economic development value to Alameda. Their presence creates and will increase job opportunities in various sectors, including engineering, manufacturing, and research and development. Additionally, their innovative business model could attract investment and contribute to the city's reputation as a hub for clean energy innovation. Furthermore, partnerships with universities and research institutions fosters talent development and further economic growth.

Completing the proposed improvements to their facility is critical for Natel's ability to deliver on major contracts, secure additional business in its pipeline, and continue to focus on growth at a critical stage for the company.

The City approved the sale of Building 23 to Natel's investors years ago and should continue to support their growth in Alameda.

Alameda Chamber & Economic Alliance endorses Natel Energy's Use Permit application and urges planning board approval.

We appreciate your consideration.

Gratefully,

Madlen Saddik

Madlen Saddik
CEO/President
Alameda Chamber & Economic Alliance



Mr. David Mik, President
Power Engineering Construction Co.
1501 Viking St. Ste 200
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 337-3800

April 12, 2024

City of Alameda Planning Board
City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Council Chambers, 3rd Floor
Alameda, CA 94501

Dear Planning Board Members,

I am writing to express my support for Natel Energy's Use Permit application for the expansion of their hydraulic testing facility, located at their headquarters at Alameda Point. As a local business owner, I firmly believe that embracing sustainable energy solutions is not only essential for mitigating environmental concerns but also for fostering economic growth and resilience.

Natel Energy presents an innovative approach to addressing our energy needs while simultaneously reducing our carbon footprint and ensuring ecological biodiversity and river connectivity. Their commitment to harnessing renewable resources aligns perfectly with our community's values of environmental stewardship and forward-thinking development.

The benefits of renewable energy adoption are manifold. By transitioning to clean energy sources, we can significantly reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and safeguard public health. Moreover, investing in renewable energy infrastructure creates job opportunities, attracts investment, and stimulates local economic growth.

Over the years, Natel has exhibited a dedication to community engagement and collaboration. Their willingness to work closely with stakeholders, listen to concerns, and incorporate feedback demonstrates their commitment to responsible development and ensures that the project reflects the needs and aspirations of our community.

Furthermore, Natel's business aligns with our town's long-term sustainability goals and environmental objectives. By supporting Natel we can set a positive example for neighboring communities and contribute to broader efforts to combat climate change on a global scale.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly endorse Natel Energy's Use Permit application and urge the planning board to approve their proposal. Thank you for considering my input on this crucial matter.

Sincerely,

Power Engineering Construction Co.

A handwritten blue signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Mik".

David Mik
President



April 18, 2024

To: City of Alameda Planning Board Members
Re: Natel Energy Use Permit

Dear Alameda Planning Board Members:

I'm writing to express support for Natel's use permit application to expand their testing facility at their offices on Alameda Point. Natel is a leader in the hydropower industry advancing the science around how to design fishsafe turbines that help restore critical corridors through rivers for fish and other aquatic life, while enabling reliable, renewable energy from hydropower. Restoring connectivity in our river systems contributes to the resiliency of natural ecosystems and surrounding communities to climate change.

Hydropower is also an important component of creating a zero-emission electrical grid to address our climate emergency, where global temperatures have already hit the 1.5 degree limit of the 2015 Paris Agreement. With over half of the United States hydropower fleet over 50 years old and in need of modernization, Natel's turbines present an opportunity to integrate enhanced environmental performance with the necessary cost of repowering.

The work that Natel does on their test facility in Alameda is critical to provide the rigorous test data that we and other environmental NGO's need to see to have confidence in their innovative designs. Natel has a robust track record of engaging with the environmental community, and I hope you approve the expansion of their test facility. We must tackle the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss with urgency, and Natel is an innovative company working at the precise intersection of those two crises.

Sincerely,

Curtis Knight
Executive Director
California Trout

From: damon vanderlind <damonvl@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 3:33 PM
To: hhom@alamaedaca.gov; Xiomara Cisneros <xcisneros@alamedaca.gov>; Diana Ariza <dariza@alamedaca.gov>; Asheshh Saheba <asaheba@alamedaca.gov>; Sunny Tsou <stsou@alamedaca.gov>; Andy Wang <awang@alamedaca.gov>; Teresa Ruiz <truiz@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: Brian McGuire <bm McGuire@alamedaca.gov>; Steven Buckley <sbuckley@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Natel hydrodynamic loop expansion

Hi,

I'm writing to you in support of the Natel hydrodynamic loop expansion that is proposed. I am an off-and-on resident of Alameda since 2008, and have owned a house here since 2020, on Pacific Avenue, where I live with my wife Christina and two daughters, who both go to daycare in the city. I have in the past run a local business on the point, and worked in Alameda over a large portion of my 15 years in the bay.

I come from a commercial fishing family; my wife and I have between us caught enough fish to deliver more than one million meals, working out of King Salmon and Dillingham, Alaska. The health of streams and rivers for fisheries is obviously very important to us, as we can see the difference in river health and abundance in the north as it compares to California and the rest of the country in the present day.

We also both have spent the majority of our careers working as engineers and managers in renewable energy, and know the outsized role that dispatchable hydropower plays in any green energy scenario, meaning it would be irresponsible to abandon hydropower completely for the sake of the fisheries.

We strongly believe that technologies like Natel's can play a major role in allowing for improved stream health while concurrently repowering existing hydrodynamic plants. Without technologies like Natel's it is hard to imagine a case where the two needs can be addressed to some degree in parallel.

The work Natel is doing to expand their hydro loop is critical to establishing the efficacy of their technology on larger turbines and getting it into adoption in the wider world. We should be proud as Alamedans to be able to support this work.

Kind regards
Damon Vander Lind
2237 Pacific Avenue,
Alameda CA

From: Tobin Fricke <fricke@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 4:06 PM
To: Xiomara Cisneros <xcisneros@alamedaca.gov>; Diana Ariza <dariza@alamedaca.gov>; Asheshh Saheba <asaheba@alamedaca.gov>; Sunny Tsou <stsou@alamedaca.gov>; Andy Wang <awang@alamedaca.gov>; Teresa Ruiz <truiz@alamedaca.gov>; Hanson Hom <hhom@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: Steven Buckley <sbuckley@alamedaca.gov>; Brian McGuire <bmcguire@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: support for Natel's hydraulic loop expansion

[Corrected email address for Hanson Hom]

On Thu, Apr 18, 2024 at 4:03 PM Tobin Fricke <fricke@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Planning Board Members,

I am writing in *enthusiastic* support of the permit for Natel Energy's expansion of their hydraulic loop facility at Alameda Point.

I am a current Alameda homeowner, and I have worked in Alameda since 2014, when I moved back to California to take a job as an engineer at Makani Power on Alameda Point. Working at Makani, I fell in love with Alameda and my wife and I have chosen to make this city our home.

The diverse collection of businesses (many of them industrial startups) at Alameda Point is one of the things that makes living in Alameda so exciting and attractive. I'm particularly excited that Alameda seems to foster renewable energy startups. Climate change is the challenge of our times and it will require the innovation of many companies like Natel to meet this challenge. So close to sea level, we in Alameda have a particularly vested interest in seeing companies like Natel succeed.

Our own Alameda Municipal Power boasts of a "100% renewable power mix" including "small hydroelectric from Graeagle and Tuolumne County" and "20% from large hydroelectric projects in California." I think it is just awesome that one of our homegrown Alameda companies is working in support of expanding small-scale hydropower technology in an environmentally-conscious, fish-safe manner.

Alameda's legacy -- the facilities of the old Navy base -- have allowed all kinds of innovative industrial startups to thrive. Airborne wind power, robotic sailboats, hydrofoiling electric boats, pinball machine restoration, nuclear energy, rockets, hydropower, and even baking, brewing, malting, distilling, fermenting, cooking, family recreation, antiques, farming, and, yes, housing. If we want these kind of companies to stay in Alameda -- bringing employment and innovation -- then we need to allow them to build whatever unusual facilities they require with a minimum of fuss and red tape.

Natel's facility, in particular, is basically just a big pipe swooshing water around and testing how the fish like it and how well the hydroelectric generator works. It's quiet, non-toxic, useful, and it even looks interesting. It should not be at all controversial.

When I have guests from out of town, I enjoy taking them to the Point and showing them everything that is happening out there, *especially* the green energy startups, before we settle down at Firebrand for a coffee and pastry. I look forward to seeing the businesses at the Point thrive, and I also keep browsing their employment listings, since I'd really rather work at the Point than commute into San Francisco for my job.

thank you!
Tobin Fricke

2207 San Jose Avenue

From: Erik Chubb <erikchubb@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 8:34:24 PM
To: Hanson Hom; Xiomara Cisneros; Diana Ariza; Asheshh Saheba; Sunny Tsou; Andy Wang; Teresa Ruiz; Steven Buckley; Brian McGuire
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Natel Energy's Use Permit

Dear Planning Board Members,

My name is Erik Chubb, I live on 9th St in Alameda and work at Saildrone on Alameda Point. I am also a former member of the Alameda Economic Development Advisory Panel (EDAP).

I am writing in support of Natel energy expanding their hydraulic testing facility. Approving this Use Permit is good for Natel, the city government, and the people of Alameda.

By expanding their test loop, Natel further roots their growth in Alameda. If they grow, the people of Alameda benefit by getting the opportunity to live and work on the island. The city benefits by further solidifying Alameda Point as a hub for climate and technology. The earth benefits by getting sustainable energy that does not destroy ecosystems.

Natel has a mission aligned with the values of Alamedians and they are good corporate citizens -- often organizing trash-pick-ups, etc. Alameda should foster a strong relationship with companies like Natel, please encourage them to stay and thrive by granting this permit.

Erik Chubb

From: Tod Hickman <tod@building43winery.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2024 10:17 PM
To: Brian McGuire <bmcmguire@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: Trish Spencer <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>; Tony Daysog <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>; Estela Villagrana <estela@building43winery.com>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Natel Energy at Planning Board, Monday, 4/22/24 at 7pm

Hi Brian ,

Glad that you emailed me about this as I have received nothing about it and no required notice. Please consider this email as my public comment and opposition to what has transpired. 1-6 below are serious issues that have not been addressed:

1. Insufficient public notice as already stated. I do not appreciate this.
2. CEQA lack of compliance. There are numerous responsible Agencies you are supposed to contact and receive feedback from. Where is this documentation? It does not appear to have been done.
3. Certificate of Approval; this has not undergone Historical Advisory Board review as required by zoning code.
4. This does not appear to comply with the biological restrictions in zones 1 or 2 pursuant to the USFWS biological opinion 2012. This is a serious violation of law and is most concerning.
5. Alameda Point EIR mitigation measures. Please provide documentation of compliance.
6. Views. Staff appears to be engaged in a concerted effort to destroy the views at Alameda Point. Views are the area's most precious resource, and they continue to disappear. Tower Avenue is a prime example, now junked up with shipping containers, non-transparent fencing, and view corridors reduced from 180 feet between buildings to 60 feet; merely the width of the roads between buildings.

Brian, the bottom line here is that none of this appears to have complied with the required Alameda Municipal Code Use Permit Process nor any of the above-mentioned items.

As a retired County Regulator, Submarine Warfare Combat Veteran, Small Business Owner, and 8 years as an elected board member I am appalled at Staffs actions and apparent collusion with influential larger business and developers at the point.

Brian, I sympathize with your position here as I have seen the current regime at work. It appears to be awful to be pressured into doing things that could make you personally liable and jeopardize your career. I have been there myself and was able to resist and turn things right. I sincerely hope that staff can find the courage to do the right things and turn the tragic situation at Alameda Point around. Our business has suffered immensely, as we

were lured here under false pretenses by the City. Read the 2014 City Managers memo about us "rebranding and relocating " to be a part of Spirits Alley. The City's actions have destroyed a once thriving Alley and left carnage in its wake. These current actions appear to be more of the same.

Regrettably,

Tod Hickman
Building43Winery

From: Kenny Jensen <kenny@navierboat.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2024 8:36 AM
To: hhom@alamedaaca.gov; Xiomara Cisneros <xcisneros@alamedaca.gov>; Diana Ariza <dariza@alamedaca.gov>; Asheshh Saheba <asaheba@alamedaca.gov>; Sunny Tsou <stsou@alamedaca.gov>; Andy Wang <awang@alamedaca.gov>; Teresa Ruiz <truiz@alamedaca.gov>; Steven Buckley <sbuckley@alamedaca.gov>; Brian McGuire <bm McGuire@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Natel Energy's Use Permit

Dear Planning Board Members:

I would like to express my support for Natel Energy's Use Permit application for the expansion of their hydraulic testing facility.

Alameda Point is a very unique place in all of the Bay Area for hardware startups, and clean energy startups in particular. It is one of the few places that has the space and infrastructure to support developing large scale hardware such as Natel's hydraulic testing facility. Hardware startups (e.g., Astra, Rain, Saildrone, Navier, Pyka, etc.) come here exactly because it is possible to build here. And with the startups comes investment, jobs, improvements to the buildings at the Point, and many secondary effects like support for local machine shops.

These hardware startups are also very mutually beneficial. Natel has helped out Navier (where I am CTO) in multiple ways. They've generously offered us use of their machine tools and shop space. Also, they let us use their parking lot, with a scenic view of SF, for a photo shoot of our product.

I'm a long term resident of Alameda (since 2010). My kids go to school here. My wife has run summer camps here (Galileo). And, I've worked at multiple clean energy companies at the Point (Makani and now Navier). I strongly believe that innovative hardware companies, like Natel, are one of the key characteristics of Alameda, and one of the things that make it such a great place to live.

Respectfully,

Kenny Jensen
Navier, CTO
510-314-1809



Zhiqun (Daniel) Deng, Ph.D.
Laboratory Fellow
Energy & Environment Directorate
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
902 Battelle Blvd.
Richland, WA 99354
Phone: (509) 372-6120
zhiqun.deng@pnnl.gov

April 19, 2024

RE: Letter of Support for Natel Energy's test facility

Dear Alameda Planning Board Members,

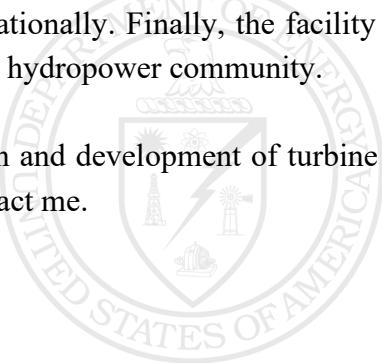
I am writing to support Natel Energy's test facility. I am a corporate fellow at the U.S. Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and an adjunct professor at University of Michigan. I direct the PNNL Bio-Acoustics & Flow Laboratory, an accredited multi-disciplinary R&D laboratory, addressing a broad range of engineering and ecological issues, with an emphasis on environmental monitoring and risk assessment for hydropower, wind, marine, and hydrokinetic energy systems. I have coauthored 160+ journal articles and 100+ government technical reports. I am also the U.S. representative for the International Energy Agency's Hydropower & Fish Annex.

Natel Energy is a leader in the development of fish-safe hydro turbines, and their test facility in Alameda is key to their leadership and innovation. In addition, their test facility is unique and valuable within the hydropower industry nationally and internationally. Finally, the facility is a great asset for the city of Alameda given its contributions to the hydropower community.

In summary, I fully support Natel Energy's continued operation and development of turbine test equipment. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Zhiqun (Daniel) Deng



April 18, 2024

City of Alameda Planning Board

Hanson Hom: hhom@alamedaaca.gov
Xiomara Cisneros: xcisneros@alamedaaca.gov
Diana Ariza: dariza@alamedaaca.gov
Asheshh Saheba: asaheba@alamedaaca.gov
Sunny Tsou: stsou@alamedaaca.gov
Andy Wang: awang@alamedaaca.gov
Teresa Ruiz: truiz@alamedaaca.gov

Dear Planning Board Members,

I am writing to express my support for Natel Energy's Use Permit application for the expansion of their hydraulic testing facility, located at their headquarters at Alameda Point. As a local developer and Alameda resident with extensive ties to Alameda Point, I firmly believe that embracing sustainable energy solutions is not only essential for mitigating environmental concerns but also for promoting Alameda's economic development objectives.

Natel Energy presents an innovative approach to addressing our energy needs while simultaneously reducing our carbon footprint and ensuring ecological biodiversity and river connectivity. Their commitment to harnessing renewable resources aligns perfectly with Alameda's values of environmental stewardship and forward-thinking development.

The benefits of renewable energy adoption are manifold. By transitioning to diverse clean energy sources, we can significantly reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, and safeguard public health. Moreover, investing in renewable energy infrastructure creates job opportunities, attracts investment, and stimulates local economic growth. Natel's technology is a critical contributor to diverse sources.

Furthermore, Natel's business aligns with Alameda's long-term sustainability goals and environmental objectives. By supporting Natel we set up Alameda to attract more clean-tech companies.

I firmly endorse Natel Energy's Use Permit application and urge the planning board to approve their proposal. Thank you for considering my input on this crucial matter.

Sincerely,



Joe Ernst
Managing Principal

Cc: City Staff
Steven Buckley: sbuckley@alamedaaca.gov
Brian McGuire: bmcguire@alamedaaca.gov

From: Shelby S <sheehan.shelby@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2024 11:03 AM
To: Steven Buckley <sbuckley@alamedaca.gov>; Brian McGuire <bmcguire@alamedaca.gov>; Planning <Planning@alamedaca.gov>; City Clerk <CLERK@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Natel item 5A for tonight--no HAB Review

Steven and Brian-

As you know, all Projects at Alameda Point, and especially those in the Historic District, and especially those with biological restrictions, and especially those with protected vistas, MUST undergo the Certificate of Approval Process by the Historical Advisory Board.

This Project has not thus far undergone that process.

You also know that no projects are exempt from CEQA at Alameda Point due to the exemption exception for Historic Resources.

Therefore the Planning Depts agenda item is fraudulent, and this Item should not be heard tonight.

Nonetheless, I expect the Planning Board to remain willfully ignorant of state and local land use laws and allow you to prevaricate upon the subject.

Please be forewarned that by going forward with this item, you are exposing yourselves to California Penal Code § 115 PC which makes it a felony criminal offense in California knowingly to file, register, or record a false or forged document in any public office within the state. Doing so is a felony offense that is punishable by up to three years in jail or prison.

The language of the statute reads that:

115. (a) Every person who knowingly procures or offers any false or forged instrument to be filed, registered, or recorded in any public office within this state, which instrument, if genuine, might be filed, registered, or recorded under any law of this state or of the United States, is guilty of a felony., which states

The City may also be sued civilly and can be held responsible for punitive damages for your wrongful conduct.

Enjoy your night.



Margaret Su
Owner/CEO
Wonky Kitchen LLC, The Prep Station
2400 Monarch Street
Alameda, CA 94501

April 20, 2024
City of Alameda Planning Board
City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Council Chambers, 3rd Floor
Alameda, CA 94501

Dear Planning Board Members,

I am writing to express my support for the expansion of the use permit for Natel Energy, a neighboring business at Alameda Point, and to recognize their contributions toward a more sustainable energy future. Restoration Hydro Turbine (RHT). Natel Energy's innovative approach to hydroelectric power generation not only represents a significant step forward in renewable energy technology but also embodies a commitment to sustainability, resilience, and environmental stewardship.

It is crucial to acknowledge that renewable energy methods are not inherently sustainable if they inadvertently harm the environment. An article from Power Magazine highlights the sustainability issues faced by the hydropower industry, [HydroPower Industry Sustainability Conundrum](#). This underscores the importance of Natel's work in resolving the harmful impacts of hydro fuel, ensuring that renewable energy solutions do not come at the expense of our natural ecosystems.

It also aligns perfectly with our city's commitment to environmental sustainability and economic prosperity. In approving the expansion of their use permit, we can not only advance cutting-edge research and development but also demonstrate our city's leadership in promoting renewable energy solutions, ones that account for long term ecological balance.

Natel is an asset to Alameda Point, showcasing a business dedicated to solutions that are environmentally sound and economically viable. Support of their efforts will promote the growth of a company that is at the forefront of sustainable energy innovation, while also contributing to the broader goals of environmental conservation and climate resilience.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this matter. I trust your decision will reflect the best interests of our city, its residents, and CARP initiatives.

Sincerely,

Margaret Su



The Prep Station



margaret@thepreptestation.com



510-504-3867

2400 Monarch St.
Alameda, CA 94501

Rain

Maxwell Brodie
CEO and Founder, Rain
2175 Monarch Street
Alameda, CA

City of Alameda Planning Board
City Hall, 2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Council Chambers, 3rd Floor
Alameda, CA 94501

Dear Planning Board Members,

I would like to convey my support for Natel Energy's permit application coming before the Planning Board on Monday April 22. Natel and Rain share a common ethos as mission-driven organizations developing innovative solutions in the face of climate change, and this ethos is deeply woven into the fabric of the Alameda Point community that we are proud to be a part of. The groundbreaking work being done by Natel and other like-minded small businesses aligns well with the City of Alameda's vision of a Point enriched by one-of-a-kind parks, commerce, and technology.

The ability to test is core to innovation. The more novel a technology is, the more critical testing is for both technology development and demonstration. Natel has impressively developed their own turbine hydraulic test laboratory here in Alameda, which—once the expansions subject to the permit application are complete—will be the only U.S.-owned laboratory compliant with international testing standards. This facility is something for Alameda to be deeply proud of and I look forward to seeing the business it brings and the science it continues to produce.

The city of Alameda has been successful in attracting industry-leading technology companies by offering the strengths of community, schools, housing, public transit and bikeability, top local talent, and unique facilities well suited to R&D. I strongly

support the Planning Board in continuing to encourage this type of growth in approving Natel's request to expand their outdoor testing facility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maxwell Brodie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'M' at the beginning.

Maxwell Brodie