



## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION FORM FOR NHA BOARD ELECTIONS



Name: Gia Schneider

Title: CEO

Company: Natel Energy

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Phone: 917 558 2718

Type of Company (independent power producer, investor owned utility, municipal utility, manufacturer, equipment supplier, engineering firm, law firm or other):

Other: Technology & engineering firm

Please circle appropriate description. Your company is:

regional

**national**

state

Please circle:

Northwest

West

Southwest

Midwest

Middle Atlantic

Northeast

Southeast

How long have you been with your present company?

Since 2009

How long have you been in your present position?

Since 2009

- **Briefly describe the responsibilities of your position and of your department or division as appropriate.**

I am responsible for the overall growth and success of the company, and the happiness of our team. Specifically, I focus on business planning, business development, sales, and thought leadership.

- **Your work experience has provided you with an opportunity to develop important skills. As an NHA board of director, particular leadership and management skills are necessary to ensure that the Association receives policy direction and that it stays on course in responding to member's needs. Briefly describe the strengths and / or particular skills you would bring to the Board of Directors.**

I have spent most of the past decade+ at Natel working to raise awareness of and interest in hydropower in a number of audiences outside of the industry – with investors (many of whom have traditionally been far more focused on solar and wind), with NGO's and with policy makers (again many of whom have been focused on policy to support other renewables, not hydropower).

I really enjoy connecting people – bringing people who have interesting skills, perspectives, experience, resources, etc together to create solutions in ways that they otherwise never would have connected or considered.

- **Have you been actively involved in NHA over the last several years, served on committees, etc?**

I have served on the Small Hydro Council, was a founding member of the Uncommon Dialogue effort, and have been a regular participant in the Technology / Innovation working group.

- **If you are elected to the board, what are the specific priorities that you would pursue?**

I care deeply about the opportunity I see for hydropower to play a leading role in the clean energy transition, while also shining a light on how to navigate the tough tradeoffs and decisions to reduce impacts to enable operations and development to be as sustainable as possible. I think we need to advance our work building unconventional partnerships with the environmental community, while rigorously keeping the pace to advocate for continued policy support from the federal government to advance hydropower.

I also would like to bring the perspective of how we can continue to motivate and inspire innovation to help us create solutions to improve hydropower. I think this is critical not only for continued growth in hydropower, but also to attract young people to take up careers in hydropower. We must build up the pipeline of talent coming into the industry!

- **Is there anything you would like to add?**

I would be honored to join NHA's board and serve the industry, and if selected, I will work hard to advance initiatives to invest in our existing fleet and advance new development.

- **Gender Identification**  
Female

- **Age**  
40-49

- **Race**  
White + Asian