

DOCKETED

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*Comment Received From: Jason Anderson
Submitted On: 5/6/2022
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**Cleantech San Diego Support for Benchmark Labs (Agenda Item
20a xvi, May 11, 2022 Business Meeting)**

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



May 3, 2022

PO BOX 178769
SAN DIEGO, CA 92117
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California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

cleantechsandiego.org

Re: Cleantech San Diego Support for Benchmark Labs (Agenda Item 20a xvi, May 11, 2022 Business Meeting)

MISSION:
To accelerate clean technology innovation and promote the equitable deployment of sustainable solutions across the San Diego region for the benefit of the economy, the environment, and all members of the community.

Chairman Hochschild and Commissioners:

On behalf of Cleantech San Diego, please accept this letter of support for Benchmark Labs and the proposed resolution approving \$150,000 from the CalSEED initiative to develop a forecasting system that will provide hourly and daily forecasts of evapotranspiration and other environmental variables like temperature and relative humidity that are relevant for saving irrigation water.

Cleantech San Diego is a member-based business association that works to position the greater San Diego region as a global leader in the cleantech economy. In 2016, Cleantech San Diego was selected by the California Energy Commission to manage the Southern California Energy Innovation Network (SCEIN), an EPIC-funded incubator program that provides services to entrepreneurs who are developing solutions to help California meet its energy goals. Cleantech San Diego has been working with Benchmark Labs as a member of our SCEIN program since May 2020.

Benchmark Labs leverages publicly available datasets and data streams from in-situ IoT sensors to provide non-linear machine learning-based forecasts for the location of interest, rather than at a county or grid level. Using their proprietary AI software, Benchmark Labs is able to provide precise asset-located weather forecasting to optimize water savings and renewable energy generation and maximize financial benefits.

Cleantech San Diego is pleased to provide support for the proposed resolution approving CalSEED funding for Benchmark Labs. This project will not only support California's clean energy future but will further demonstrate California's leadership in this industry.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Anderson", is written over a vertical line.

Jason Anderson
President and CEO
Cleantech San Diego