



The National Association of Innovative Lighting Distributors (NAILD)
Vendor Committee for the Advancement and Promotion of Dark Skies
% GET A GRIP MANAGEMENT
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Douglas Knebelsberger, Vendor Committee Chairman and Director
James Benya, Honorary Co-Chairman
Matthew Thesing, NAILD President

July 9, 2021

Dear NAILD Committee for the Advancement and Promotion of Dark Skies Members,

Thank you for including the DesignLights Consortium (DLC) in your May 13 Open Letter “Regarding the Future Deployment and Promotion of Outdoor Lighting Which is in Compliance with the Five Principles of Responsible Outdoor Lighting”. As an organization devoted to our mission of achieving energy optimization by enabling controllability with a focus on quality, people, and the environment, the DLC shares NAILD’s interest in mitigating the negative impacts of artificial light at night and we look forward to working with you and other industry partners on this increasingly important and topical issue.

Recently, the DLC launched an effort to enhance our Solid-State Lighting (SSL) Technical Requirements by adding specifications that will enable users of our SSL Qualified Products List (QPL) to more easily select LED outdoor lighting products that are both energy efficient and have attributes that enable best environmental practices for nighttime illumination. Currently undergoing a review of comments received before releasing the second draft for public comment, these draft technical requirements were informed by the expertise of an Advisory Group whose members include representation from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, the International WELL Building Institute, the National Park Service, the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES), Georgia Power, the lighting consulting group Lighting Ideas, and the Honorary Co-Chairman of your committee, Jim Benya of Benya Burnett Consultancy, as well as the International Dark Sky Association (IDA).

Like NAILD, the DLC shares support for the use of objective industry standards to guide the manufacture, promotion and adoption of products that mitigate light pollution. As such, we are developing performance requirements that support the IES and IDA’s five principles for responsible outdoor lighting, which recommend that lighting installations be purposeful, targeted, are able to be controlled to provide just as much light as needed, be dimmed when possible, turned off when not needed, and use a warmer color light.

The DLC is in a unique position to drive selection of outdoor LED lighting products, as our technical requirements are utilized in the design of commercial and industrial lighting efficiency programs offered



by scores of energy organizations across North America. While the DLC does not create lighting standards, we support industry standards as objective measures of product performance and reference them in our technical policies. As we continue to develop and deploy our LUNA technical requirements, we will point our QPL users to the IES, ANSI and other standards and to supporting industry dark sky education initiatives.

The DLC was pleased to learn that NAILD has created a Vendor Committee for the Advancement and Promotion of Dark Skies and is aligned with the committee's initial findings. NAILD's vendor members include lighting distributors and manufacturers whose experience in meeting customer needs cannot be overstated. Like the DLC, this group is no doubt aware of the mounting research that calls to preserve dark skies for people, and the nocturnal environment, as well as meet the needs for safety and navigation in all communities. A quick survey by our staff turned up nearly 250 news, feature and opinion articles about light pollution and responses to it, from all corners of the world, since the beginning of 2021.

Clearly, there is an urgency to this work. We applaud NAILD for its initiative with dark sky lighting and, with so much common ground among us, we are confident that our collective efforts will have a meaningful impact. The DLC looks forward to working with NAILD, its new committee, and other members of the lighting industry on these issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina Halfpenny". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tina Halfpenny
Executive Director/CEO, DesignLights Consortium