

# PEC Commissioner Application

Submitted on 9 September 2024, 8:56PM  
Receipt number 40  
Related form version 2

## Contact Information

First Name Daniel

Last Name Adler

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City OAKLAND

State California

Zip Code 94610

Phone

Evening Phone

Email

## Vacancy Term

Which vacancy are you applying for (check all that apply)?

Partial Term (ends January 21, 2025)

Full Term ( begins January 22, 2025 and ends on January 21, 2028)

## Please answer the following questions

Are you an Oakland resident

Yes

Years of residency in Oakland

11-20 years

Your City Council District

District 2

List any City of Oakland Boards or Commissions (including this Commission) on which you currently or have previously served:

None

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Do you attest that you already have or will attend a PEC meeting before your final interview with the Commission?	Yes
If you said yes to the previous question, please let us know what date you attended or will attend.	9/16/2024
Are you currently employed by the City of Oakland or do you have any direct and substantial financial interest in any work, business, or official action by the City?	No
Are you currently or are you planning to run for elective office in Oakland?	No
Are you currently or are you planning to endorse, support or oppose an Oakland candidate or ballot measure?	No
Are you currently or are you planning to work on behalf of an Oakland candidate or ballot measure?	No
Are you a registered Oakland lobbyist?	No
Are you required to register as a lobbyist?	No
Do you receive compensation from an Oakland lobbyist?	No
Do you receive gifts from an Oakland lobbyist?	No
How did you hear about this vacancy?	Other

## Supplemental questions

<b>1. Why do you want to serve on the Public Ethics Commission?</b>	1. I am a committed public servant and a trained public policy professional, and in the course of my career in and out of public service I have developed an abiding belief in one central tenet of good government: citizens must have trust in public institutions, or our ability to work through challenges will continuously diminish. To nurture and sustain that trust requires an absolute commitment to public ethics, both the reality of how public officials behave, but equally importantly - ever moreso now in our fractured media landscape - we must attend to the public perception of ethics, with a commitment to transparency, collaboration and accountability that meets and exceeds what citizens can rightfully expect of their leaders.
<b>2. What skills and experience will you bring to the Commission? (Include any governmental experience, activities with civic and business organizations, neighborhood groups, or any other experience that would contribute to your effectiveness as a Commissioner.)</b>	2. I am presently employed as Deputy Director for Climate Finance at the state Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank, where I am leading the state's efforts to build a "Green Bank" to provide capital for community-scale climate solutions. In this and previous roles elsewhere in state government, in senior leadership of a philanthropic organization, and as the Executive Director of a Bay Area nonprofit organization, I have emphasized – for myself and my team members – the importance of combining technical skills, subject matter expertise, and a commitment to robust and authentic engagement practices, which are the foundation of sound deliberation and public-minded decision making. I hope to contribute this combination of experiences and perspectives to the tasks before this Commission, rooted in my deep love for home city.
<b>3. What issues, projects, or goals would you like to pursue while serving on the Commission?</b>	From my perspective, Oakland residents experience a significant lack in information regarding the activities of city government. This lack of

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information feed distrust, which amplifies perceptions of unethical, or at least nontransparent, behavior. My first priority would be to listen and learn regarding the matters presently before the Commission, as well as the priorities of my potential colleagues and the Oakland residents bringing issues before the body. Following that, I would, at the proper time, look to support initiatives that 1) create a public poll that establishes top priorities for ethics-related issues; 2) support creation of an information clearinghouse responsive to those articulated public priorities; 3) facilitate access to deeper information for community-based organizations, working with the city offices identified as community priorities of interest, again stressing that transparency builds trust in public institutions; and 4) where feasible, working with elected leadership and senior agency officials to carry messages on ethics matters out to Oakland citizens, hopefully supporting the Commission's role as a trusted intermediary on these pivotal matters.

4. What do you think are the City's most pressing ethics, campaign finance, or transparency challenges?

4. The issues list is obviously lengthy, including the perception and reality surrounding "bundled" campaign contributions; the role of non-Oakland influences in shaping perceptions around proposed recalls; the pervasive sense that safety issues are not being managed or even necessarily prioritized. I have no illusions that the Commission alone can resolve these issues, which require both deeper resources and skilled leadership at every level of government. But in short form, my belief is that Oakland citizens feel that the city is broken, corrupt, and unaccountable to its residents. There is no trust in our institutions to turn the tide – despite what I know, from my current experience working in government, to be the tireless labor of many throughout the city family to improve matters. Transparency, communication and accountability should be part of a new foundation upon which Oakland's public ethics can be reestablished.

5. What else would you like the subcommittee to know as your application is considered?

I truly value public service as the field in which participants can be unabashedly idealistic, while holding ourselves and our peers to lofty expectations of competence, professionalism and rigor. I've reached a stage in my life, professionally but also as a father of two active, curious teenagers, where I can contribute my modest skills and boundless optimism to helping my community in what seems to be a fraught moment. In every role or project I've taken on, my first priority has been to learn from and promote the experience and goals of my colleagues aligned in a common mission. That's the spirit I would bring to this Commission; what we might pursue together would be real privilege to support.

## Please provide two references

Reference 1 Name	Justin Homer
Reference 1 Address	[REDACTED]
Reference 1 Phone	[REDACTED]
Reference 1 Email	[REDACTED]
Reference 2 Name	Tal Klement
Reference 2 Address	[REDACTED]
Reference 2 Phone	[REDACTED]
Reference 2 Email	[REDACTED]

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## Submit your resume

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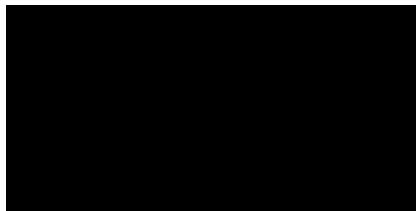
Upload your resume

[Daniel Adler Resume \(2024\).pdf](#)

## Sign and submit application

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Signature



# SUPPLEMENTAL PEC APPLICANT QUESTIONNAIRE

Submitted on 17 September 2024, 11:38am  
Receipt number 6  
Related form version 3

## SUPPLEMENTAL PEC APPLICANT QUESTIONNAIRE

Name Dan Adler

Email

NO, none of these categories applied to me in the prior 2 years.

If you answered YES, please explain:

Signature

[Link to signature](#)

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Daniel M. Adler



*Senior executive and established industry leader at the intersections of clean energy technology, policy and finance.*

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**Deputy Director for Climate Finance**

California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank)

April 2022 - Present

**Senior Advisor for Climate Finance**

California Governor Gavin Newsom  
Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)

July 2020-March 2022

**Senior Fellow**

Coalition for Green Capital

2020-2021

**Vice President for Policy**

Energy Foundation  
San Francisco, California

2015 - 2020

- Responsible for strategic direction of policy design and advocacy, as part of a national philanthropic partnership investing \$100 million annually in clean energy solutions. Leadership of a team of senior professionals managing philanthropic portfolios that support innovations in clean electricity, energy efficiency, transportation, finance, and market design and regulation. Extensive management, stakeholder engagement and thought leadership responsibilities.

**Managing Director**

California Clean Energy Fund (CalCEF)  
San Francisco, California

2008 - 2015

- Responsible for full range of strategic initiatives affecting the organization's core mission as senior executive, including market and policy engagement, stakeholder relations, and thought leadership around sustainable energy finance, policy and market development.

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**President**, CalCEF Ventures

2008 - 2015

- Responsible for CalCEF's investments across six funds in clean energy venture capital and project finance, leading the firm's efforts to identify catalytic new investment theses.

**Managing Director**, Clean Energy Advantage Partners

2010 - 2015

- Strategic engagement with the formation and development of a new multi-investor tax equity fund, increasing the pool of capital for renewable energy project development.

**Vice President**

2005-2008

California Clean Energy Fund (CalCEF)

**Senior Analyst, Division of Strategic Planning**

2001 - 2005

California Public Utilities Commission

San Francisco, California

- Responsible for the design and implementation of California's Renewable Portfolio Standard and senior staff for statewide climate change policy. Initiated and led intergovernmental collaboration for policy implementation, creating a model structure across energy agencies that enabled timely and effective execution while minimizing bureaucratic delays.

### **Boards and Committees (emeritus)**

- Board of Advisors, American Green Bank Consortium
- Steering Committee, Energy Efficiency for All
- Co-Chairman of the Board, American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE)
- Board of Directors, Coalition for Green Capital
- Board of Directors, Vote Solar Initiative
- Board of Advisors, Clean Tech Open
- Advisory Committee Member, Low-Carbon Fuel Standard Advisory Committee, California Air Resources Board
- Advisory Committee Member, Economic and Technology Advancement Advisory Committee, California Air Resources Board
- Advisory Committee Member, San Francisco Mayor Newsom's Clean Technology Advisory Council

### **Education**

- Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government  
*Master of Arts in Public Policy*
- University of California at Berkeley  
*Bachelor of Arts in Political Science*

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## SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION QUESTION – DAN ADLER

*Under the City Charter, the Public Ethics Commission (PEC) may appoint someone to fill a vacancy in a Commission board seat appointed by a citywide elected official if that seat has been vacant for more than 120 days. The appointee shall have the same background qualifications as would be required of a member appointed by the Citywide official, which for a Mayor vacancy, requires that the appointee be a “member who has represented a local civic organization with a demonstrated history of involvement in local governance issues.” Please describe your relevant experience meeting this qualification.*

I can offer these relevant examples responsive to prompt, the first being most salient:

- I served on the Board of the nonprofit Vote Solar Initiative, which engaged local governments to empower citizens in deploying solar energy.
- As a member of the founding Board, I helped shape the strategy for engaging local governments to advance the organization’s agenda for solar justice, including specifically engaging staff of the SF Public Utilities Commission and Board of Supervisors regarding policy design for the organization.
- Vote Solar also became a prominent proponent of Community Choice Aggregation, a citizens-oriented movement to give communities greater influence over energy planning and procurement, and an ongoing role in decisions affecting energy justice which had typically been reserved for utility leadership. CCAs are typically governed by local officials or boards composed of community representatives, which ensures decisions about energy procurement, pricing, and programs align with local priorities and values.

Additionally:

- I served on the steering committee for the Energy Efficiency for All initiative, which engaged local housing agencies to promote lower energy costs and improved indoor air quality for low-income residents;
- During my tenure at the nonprofit Energy Foundation, we launched a Cities program to advocate for a range of local climate solutions, including low-carbon transit, local pollution reduction and citizen engagement with energy planning;
- In my role with the California Infrastructure Bank, in the course of developing an investment strategy to fund sustainable energy in affordable multi-family housing, I engaged deeply with the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Sustainability;
- Lastly, recognizing that the direction of representation is not identical, I served on SF Mayor Newsom’s Clean Technology Advisory Council, and from that position I engaged multiple city agencies about their organizational structures, processes and policies regarding sustainability.