



## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL AIR STATION KEY WEST  
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KEY WEST FLORIDA 33040-9001

11000  
Ser N00/291  
June 6, 2025

Mr. Brian Barraso  
City Manager  
Office of the City Manager, City of Key West  
1300 White Street  
Key West, FL 33040

Subj: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL ENERGY USA'S NAVY SMALL BUSINESS  
INNOVATION RESEARCH 23.4 OPEN TOPIC (N244-P02) SUBMISSION

Dear Mr. Barroso,

Naval Air Station (NAS) Key West appreciates the opportunity to provide a letter of support with respect to exploring a partnership with the Navy Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs, National Energy USA, and the City of Key West. This partnership will be expected to leverage industry experts, capabilities, and resources to develop solutions focused on reducing operating costs, increasing service capabilities, and promoting mission readiness while achieving military-civilian community benefit.

NAS Key West is the southernmost military installation in the continental United States. The location is strategic and provides the Navy with unparcelled aerial ranges for East coast pilot training in addition to National security mission support for the Department of Homeland Security and Joint Interagency Task Force South. Due to its remote location, NAS Key West experiences power quality and reliability issues more frequently than mainland Florida. Volatile weather events and infrastructure degradation are the leading causes of power disruption and mission downtime. In addition, the remoteness of the installation also contributes to significant operational expenses for municipal solid waste and sewage waste management.

The installation, with Navy Region Southeast support, would like to explore potential SBIR Program initiative with SBIR Phase I awardee, National Energy USA, to expand on prior due diligence performed at Eglin Air Force Base (AFB) and create a holistic solution for the above-mentioned problem statement. The technical solution explored at Eglin AFB utilized existing installation waste stream data and electrical load requirements to develop a business case analysis for implementing a waste-to-engineered fuel solution that would support onsite power production in the Florida Keys.

If approved, a second Phase II SIBR Catapult project at NAS Key West would further research the utilization of National Energy's patented technology to close energy security gaps at NAS Key West while also drastically reducing solid/sewage waste transport and disposal costs for both the installation and the City of Key West. Increasing Phase II scope to include power and solid/sewage waste stream requirements from the City of Key West is expected to bolster the research effort and support economic justification required for full scale commercial development of this technology.

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We support National Energy USA in its pursuit of SBIR/STTR funding to further research and pursue technology solutions for NAS Key West. Mr. Steven Vickery, Navy Region Southeast Energy Program Manager, will be our lead for this effort. He can be reached at phone (904) 704-6516 or [steven.k.vickery.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:steven.k.vickery.civ@us.navy.mil). For all other aspects of this project, my point of contact is Erik Hannson, NAS Key West Installation Energy Manager. He may be reached at [erik.n.hansson.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:erik.n.hansson.civ@us.navy.mil).

Sincerely,



C. J. THOMPSON  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer

Copy to:  
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