

**Ibarra, Angel**

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**From:** healoubu@gmail.com on behalf of Heather Buckley <hbuckley@berkeley.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 28, 2015 1:06 PM  
**To:** Ibarra, Angel  
**Subject:** Fwd: Public Comments for Brisbane Baylands Development - Impact on Windsurfing at Candlestick Park State Recreation Area

Dear Angel,

Brad Block kindly provided me with your contact information as the best contact for the Brisbane City Planning Commission. I have sent these comments to city council as well, but would appreciate you including them in public comments that you are preparing for the commissioners.

Thanks and best,

Heather Buckley  
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Dear Brisbane City Council and Planning Commission:

My name is Heather Buckley and I am a researcher at the University of California Berkeley Center for Green Chemistry. My background as a chemist has included training in evaluating chemical safety, public health impacts, and environmental consequences of decisions made both at a small scale and in broader systems. In addition, I am an active member of the windsurfing community and I travel throughout the Bay to windsurf, with Candlestick Park State Recreation Area being one of my preferred launches.

There are several reasons why I, and many other members of the windsurfing community, prefer Candlestick Park as a launch site; first and foremost among them is safety. Many other locations in the bay require a sailor to travel far from land and to navigate shipping channels and strong currents to access good wind. This is prohibitive for less experienced windsurfers; Candlestick Park is the only place on the Peninsula where I would be comfortable taking children windsurfing and introducing them to a sport that imparts a great love of nature.

Another aspect of launching at Candlestick Park is the windsurfing community there. People who have windsurfed from that location for decades are eager to share their experience with newcomers, and a number of the windsurfers regularly walk through the park cleaning up trash left by other users. The relationship between those who fish and those who windsurf at Candlestick Park is very friendly, and so I always feel someone is looking out for me when I am windsurfing there. Keeping this park as a preferred location for windsurfing brings an extra level of caring about the park, and improves its quality as a resource to the broader public community.

I am writing this letter to be included as public comments for the ongoing Environmental Impact Report and planning processes for the Brisbane Baylands development and Recology expansion projects. I appreciate the openness of the process and the fact that windsurfing has been considered as a parameter, however, I am concerned that the findings of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Brisbane Baylands development project, which indicated that none of the proposed development scenarios “would reduce wind speeds enough to substantially impair windsurfing in prime windsurfing areas on San Francisco Bay,” are not based on a sufficiently specific definition of what winds are considered adequate for windsurfing. Because windsurfing takes place in that vicinity during the months of April-September (inclusive) and in the afternoons (from noon until sunset typically), impacts on average winds throughout the year are not a relevant metric. The city of Brisbane should instead base their analysis of wind on that recommended by the Candlestick Preservation Association or a similar analysis of wind impact. Including these specific parameters will demonstrate a good-faith effort on the part of the Brisbane City Council and Planning Commission to work with the windsurfing community and preserve the important public goods that are Candlestick Park State Recreation Area and the winds that blow there on summer afternoons.

Thank you for your consideration, and I would be happy to clarify or elaborate on any of my comments by phone or email.

Sincerely,

Heather Buckley

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