

**Dr. Rafael Nieves**  
**Managing Partner**  
**NEAtech, LLC**  
**10585 W Beloit Place**  
**Denver, CO 80227**  
**(303) 895-8180**



### **Qualifications**

Dr. Rafael Nieves has worked in the renewable energy sector for over 22 years. His formal training is in biotechnology with emphasis on the biofuels and bioindustry sector. Rafael is experienced in the management of national and international collaborations as well as management of large technical projects. His background in R&D as well as business allows for productive interactions between technical staff and management. He has been involved in bioenergy projects in the U.S., Mexico, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Australia, Philippines, Ghana, Armenia and the Ukraine. He is completely fluent in Spanish and English.

### **Experience**

*NEAtech, LLC, Managing Partner*

Developing New Energy Alternatives is the focus and mission of NEAtech, a company founded on the day that Barack Obama was sworn in as the 44th President of the United States. The principals of NEAtech, Mark Yancey, Brian Duff and Rafael Nieves, bring over 90 years of experience in alternative energy R&D, deployment and commercialization. NEAtech will assist clients worldwide in the development of wind, solar and biomass based alternative energy projects. Rafael's focus will be on business development for NEAtech and managing international projects.

*BBI International, Director - International Business Development, 2007 – 2009*

Rafael was the Director of the international business development effort for BBI International's Engineering and Consulting Group. He was involved in bioenergy projects in the U.S., Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Australia, Philippines, Ghana, El Salvador and the Ukraine. His duties also included managing BBI business development representatives in Mexico, Argentina, El Salvador and Hungary.

*BBI International, Project Manager/Business Development Manager, 2005 - 2007*

Rafael was the lead for BBI's business development effort. He was responsible for the initial business contacts as well as international research for ethanol and biodiesel plant feasibility studies, providing client proposals, and developing project development and feasibility study business leads. Additionally, he was the Project Manager for a 100 million gallon per year ethanol facility in the panhandle of Texas.

*National Renewable Energy Laboratory, Senior Project Leader, 1997 – 2005*

As a Senior Project leader at NREL, Rafael developed and managed numerous funds-in collaborations with industrial partners and other institutes. He also cultivated clients and developed solid partnerships based on support and commitment. He worked closely with NREL

engineers and researchers to meet client's needs and reporting. In addition, he co-managed a yearly maximum operating budget of \$7 million to include a large number of subcontracts. Rafael was responsible for representing NREL's Biotechnology Center at national and international professional conferences. At NREL he developed superb negotiation abilities utilized in contract negotiations and project management. He was the recipient of a 2004 R&D 100 award for his role as technical monitor of the \$35 million DOE-funded cellulase research efforts by Novozymes Biotech., Inc. and Genencor International. While at NREL, he established a 5 year-long mentoring program for Latin American summer students termed the Biofuels Research Initiative for Student Advancement (BRISA Program).

*NREL Enzyme Technology Team, Staff Scientist, Senior Scientist, 1991-1996*

As part of the Enzyme Technology Team, Rafael performed purification and characterization of novel microbial enzymes. He performed fermentations, purification and characterization of proteins utilizing HEC, SEC, IEC, and isoelectric focusing from fermentation broths and MSW anaerobic digestion sludges. He developed ELISAs and utilized other immunological techniques for enzyme detection, quantification and characterization. He also utilized molecular biology techniques to express program-relevant heterologous proteins. During this time he was author and co-author on three enzyme patents.

*Colorado State University, Medical Technologist, 1984-1990*

At CSU Rafael performed analysis of medical specimens in the areas of hematology, blood chemistry, microbiology, serology, and urinalysis (during M.S. and Ph.D. studies).

*Bayamon Regional Hospital, Medical Technologist, 1982-1984*

At Bayamon Regional Hospital, Rafael performed analysis of medical specimens in the areas of hematology, blood chemistry, microbiology, serology, and urinalysis.

**Education**

Medical Technology Degree, Universidad InterAmericana (Puerto Rico), 1982

M.S. and Ph.D. Microbiology, Biochemistry, Colorado State University, 1990

M.B.A. International Business, University of Denver, 2002