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*Comment Received From: Kathleen Harper*  
*Submitted On: 6/4/2025*  
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## **250 Megawatt Battery Energy Storage Facility (BESS)**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

**From:** [Kat Harper](#)  
**To:** [Energy - Docket Optical System](#)  
**Subject:** 250 Megawatt Battery Energy Storage Facility (BESS)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 10:54:13 PM

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OUTRAGEOUS!!! A zoom meeting without public knowledge or consent is a huge over reach of jurisdiction. On May 29th and June 3rd, there were zoom meetings for public comment, however many residents are still not aware. There has been a profound lack of information for the community.

Although there are benefits of having a battery storage facility, in my opinion, the potential risk-especially given the vulnerability to wildfires is not worth it.

It is unfathomable to me that after the Lahaina, Los Angeles, and countless other fires, the site designated is very close proximity to a level 1 trauma center, Interstate 5, the Amtrak Train, hundreds of homes, schools, thousands of people and so much more. I am not against battery storage and supporting the power grid but in this location I find a profound lack of wisdom in this decision.

Direct impact following the Otay battery storage facility:

Heavy metals detected in the soil have also created health implications for Monterey County's agriculture industry, and the workers who pick the produce.

Last month, a battery-storage plant went up in flames and burned for days, prompting the evacuation of more than 1,000 residents and shutting down local schools. The plant, located in Moss Landing, an unincorporated community in Monterey County, is the largest facility in the world that uses lithium-ion batteries to store energy. Residents have reported feeling ill, and many of them worry that the fire polluted the air, soil and water with toxins.

"Now you don't see anybody walking outside because it's terrifying, everything that's going on," said Esmeralda Ortiz, who had to evacuate from her home in Moss Landing after the plant began burning on Jan. 16.

the Department of Toxic Substances Control, detected cobalt, nickel, copper and manganese — heavy metals found in lithium ion batteries — at wide-ranging levels in soil sampled at eight sites near the plant and up to roughly five miles away from it.

NEW YORK TIMES.

OTAY MESA FIRE BURNED FOR 7 STRAIGHT DAYS.  
THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Have some common sense.  
We're not okay with this.  
Signed,  
Kathleen Harper.  
Resident & Homeowner.