

**DOCKETED**

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*Comment Received From: Neil Serr*  
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## **Risks to Travis Air Force Base**

Dear Commissioners,

I write to express my strong opposition to the proposed Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project, on the grounds that its proximity to Travis Air Force Base presents critical national security and operational risks that cannot be overlooked.

### Strategic Importance of Travis AFB

Travis AFB plays a pivotal role in global mobility, logistics, and readiness for the U.S. Air Force. It consistently conducts large-scale training and operational missions to maintain readiness, including major joint exercises like "Northern Strike 25-2" in August 2025, showcasing its importance in regional and national defense infrastructure Travis Air Force Base.

### Key Concerns Regarding Proximity to the Proposed BESS

#### National Security Sensitivities

The operation of a 300-MW / 1,200-MWh lithium-ion BESS in relatively close proximity to a critical military installation introduces potential vulnerabilities including risks of system failure, fire, or even unintended interference with base operations.

#### Electromagnetic Interference Potential

BESS facilities involve high-voltage systems and SCADA/control infrastructure. The possibility of electromagnetic interference (EMI), cyber vulnerabilities, or accidental signal disruption poses an unacceptable risk to the secure communications and radar systems that Travis AFB relies upon for flight operations and security.

#### Emergency Response Limitations

Unlike military facilities that are staffed and secured, the Corby project is intended to be unmanned after construction, with periodic maintenance accessed remotely via a SCADA system.

In the event of a catastrophic failure such as a fire or chemical release the speed and coordination of response within such a sensitive national defense context may be inadequate.

#### Precedent in Security-Minded Energy Projects

When implementing renewable energy projects on military installations such as the Edwards Air Force Base solar-plus-storage facilities strict site controls, segregation, access limitations, and extensive risk mitigation planning were integral to project

execution.

### Request for Action

Given these substantial concerns, I urge the Commission to:

Reject the Corby BESS project unless a comprehensive national security risk assessment is conducted, explicitly involving the U.S. Department of Defense and officials from Travis AFB.

Require a specialized study addressing electromagnetic interference, emergency response coordination, and operational safety near military air mobility infrastructure.

Mandate consultation with Travis AFB leadership prior to advancing any proposals, ensuring protection of national security interests and base readiness.

California's clean energy initiatives must be balanced thoughtfully with the imperative to safeguard America's defense infrastructure. Placing a large-scale lithium-ion BESS in proximity to a strategic installation like Travis AFB without rigorous safeguards is unwise and unnecessary.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for protecting both our energy future and national security.

Sincerely, Neil Serr