

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	25-OPT-02
Project Title:	Prairie Song Reliability Project
TN #:	266098
Document Title:	Comment from Steve Brock
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Stephen Brock
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	9/23/2025 6:52:49 AM
Docketed Date:	9/23/2025

*Comment Received From: Stephen Brock
Submitted On: 9/23/2025
Docket Number: 25-OPT-02*

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The Prairie Song is an enormous project which will cover 70 acres in battery containers and stretch over one mile in length. It is proposed in an area where there are homes and animal facilities, with several homes being literally across the dirt road from the batteries on Tortuga Street. The presence of this project will force these homeowners into leaving their homes, requiring them to accept buyout offers from the developer as nobody will want to buy a home with these these battery containers in front of them and the busy State Route 14 at their backs. They are literally boxed in by this project.

Eminent domain is not something normally allowed by private developers, but it's a reserved privilege for the state to delegate to municipalities and government entities. Basically what these developers are doing is equal to eminent domain since the property owners are having to move, against their will, out of safety concerns and fears of losing their real estate investment when it's rendered unsellable due to the presence of this mammoth facility.

It's extremely apparent that lithium iron phosphate batteries are the preferred choice of BESS developers but they are not safe in the opinion of our community.

Our community is a small rural area predominantly dedicated to ranches, animal rescues and boarding facilities. The zoning code dictates this as proper use of A-1 and A-2 zoning. Nothing in the zoning code specifies huge industrial development (such as a BESS) as being appropriate on agriculture-zoned property. As a matter of fact, energy storage devices are prohibited in A-1 and A-2 under the Renewable Energy section of the article 22 Zoning Code.

Also, due to the area being designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, it makes no sense whatsoever to allow a project such as the Prairie Song to be built amongst homes, ranches, rescues, etc which are all on dirt roads with limited egress should there be a fire or evacuation during a BESS fire incident.

This project was originally proposed as being 24.4 miles away from the Vincent substation, as it was stated in their LGIA, yet that location was not even listed as an alternative site. Perhaps that location 24.4 miles away would be a better location for a huge project such as the Prairie Song instead of imposing risks on a small rural community such as Acton? And if that originally specified location wasn't feasible, why was it stated in their LGIA?

The safety and well-being of residents and their animals should come before a developer's expense for transmission interconnection, especially since these projects make millions of dollars each year.