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PRAIRIE SONG RELIABILITY PROJECT BESS IS NOT FOR ACTON

I am a LA County resident, I live in a small, rural town, Acton, CA, also located in a high-fire district. I am deeply concerned about the safety of our community due to the repeated fires at battery storage facilities in the area and US....and now we are seeing large developers proposing them in my little town of Acton.

As the crow flies, the proposed BESS projects would be a mere 2 miles from my home, and to make things even worse we live down wind from the project in the exact direction that the Santa Ana winds blow toward. If there were to be a fire or toxic fumes as a result of an explosion (and we know this WILL happen), the results would be unimaginable to my home and my family.

They keep telling us that these facilities are getting safer, but we are seeing fires over and over again (almost one per month since 2021). It's time for us to stop these dangerous facilities from being built. How on earth have these dangerous facilities been able to avoid deeper scrutiny from our Board of Supervisors, it seems they are basically being rubber stamped approved. I wonder if these facilities were being built by any of the LA Supervisors' homes if they would be allowing more investigations. I'm concerned that in the rush to decarbonize our grid that our state representatives have disregarded basic concepts of public safety and local environment.

As you know Acton is in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, it is already very difficult to purchase homeowners insurance, ours is now 7X more expensive than it was just 8 years ago with no claims and we even wonder if we will be renewed at the end of this year!! I believe this facility would make it impossible to purchase homeowners insurance which will then devalue homes near the facility, making them difficult to sell. It will further affect fire insurance premiums and our ability to obtain insurance. thus forcing many residents into selling their homes to the developer. UNACCEPTABLE!! How would you feel if this was happening near your home?

Kathy and Matt Fairbrother
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