

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	24-OPT-05
<b>Project Title:</b>	Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project
<b>TN #:</b>	266150
<b>Document Title:</b>	Neil Serr Comments - BESS Related Fires since 2022
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	System
<b>Organization:</b>	Neil Serr
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Public
<b>Submission Date:</b>	9/25/2025 10:59:08 AM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	9/25/2025

*Comment Received From: Neil Serr*

*Submitted On: 9/25/2025*

*Docket Number: 24-OPT-05*

## **BESS Related Fires since 2022**

All known BESS-related fires (since 2023) – concise, sourced list

Below I collected major publicly documented fires that were located at or caused by utility / commercial BESS facilities from 2023 – today (Sep 25, 2025). This is not an absolutely guaranteed exhaustive list of every small or unreported event, but it captures the major incidents that are documented by regulators, industry databases, and news outlets. The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) maintains a dedicated BESS Failure Incident Database and is the best single authoritative source for a comprehensive table.

Summer 2023 – Three NY State BESS fires (Jefferson, Orange, Suffolk counties)  
Several commercial BESS facilities experienced fires in summer 2023; New York’s Governor convened an Inter-Agency Fire Safety Working Group in response. (Working Group / state reports list the three incidents).

Jun 26, 2023 – Warwick, NY (two small commercial BESS units)  
Alarms and fires at BESS installations on school district land; evacuations of local school facilities; no fatalities reported.

May 15, 2024 – Gateway Energy Storage (San Diego area / Otay Mesa region)  
A large BESS fire that produced repeated flare-ups and an extended response / cleanup period; EPA response page documents the incident and ongoing oversight. (reporting describes week(s) of smoke/flare-ups and environmental oversight).

Other 2024 – assorted commercial/utility BESS incidents  
Multiple smaller-scale incidents and long-burn fires were reported nationwide in 2024 (industry summaries & local news describe several events; industry analyses tracked declining incident rates but continued notable events).

Jan 16, 2025 – Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility (Monterey County, CA) –  
Vistra  
One of the largest utility-scale BESS fires in the U.S.; forced local evacuations (~1,200 residents), road closures, multi-agency response, and subsequent environmental monitoring for heavy metals. Widely covered by major outlets and state/federal agencies.

May 2025 (examples and regulatory follow-ups)  
After the Moss Landing incident regulators, state agencies and fire services increased attention and proposed/implemented new guidance and code reviews. (CA Office of the State Fire Marshal, EPA and others issued materials / symposiums).

Sep 2025 – California Flats / Arevon Energy (Monterey County area; reported late Aug–early Sep 2025)

A solar + storage facility experienced a battery fire; CAL FIRE responded and evacuations were briefly issued for a radius around the site. (Industry reporting).

Sep 24, 2025 – Townsite Solar + Storage (Boulder City, NV)

Two Tesla Megapack units ignited; multi-agency response; no major injuries reported. (Local news / industry reporting).

Additional / earlier context (pre-2023 but relevant)

2022 – PG&E / Elkhorn (Moss Landing area) – single Megapack ignited (context for local history). Many analyses reference 2022 incidents when discussing risk trends.

Possible under-reporting: many smaller BESS incidents (warehouse, C&I, or very small systems) may not make national news. EPRI's Failure Incident Database is the closest thing to a maintained incident list; using it produces the most complete picture.