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Transmission System Engineering

Over the last 10 years Californians have suffered through extreme rate increases (PG&E = 104%, SCE = 71%, and SDG&E = 83%). These rate increases are unsustainable for many ratepayers and businesses. Load growth to meet the changing economy is expected to raise rates even further. To meet the state's economic growth aspirations, carbon reduction requirements, and driving down costs, the state needs the Prairie Song Reliability Project (PSRP) and more projects like it.

California's load growth needs to be met with technologies, like the PSRP, that are cheap, deployable, and safe.

The state operates through an interconnected energy grid and a singular market for electricity. The PSRP will be able to capture abundant renewable energy when it is cheap and sell it back to the grid when costs and demand are highest. This additional energy supply during peak demand will help drive down costs for all ratepayers as well as providing additional capacity when it is needed most, helping to reduce brownouts and blackouts that affect everyone.

The PSRP is located at a substation that doesn't need extra build out and has no network upgrades. It would be tough, if not impossible, to find another location where we could add this much resilience to the grid without triggering massive costs for upgrades. Siting near the Vincent substation reduces costly transmission build out and lowers costs for all ratepayers.

The PSRP can be online to support rate payers in 4 years. There are few projects of this size that can achieve the timeline necessary to help California meet its energy needs.

Finally, the PSRP project, and LFP BESS projects are safe. LFP BESS projects have fewer incidents than energy sources we already accept. In California, there were 229 serious gas leak incidents between 2010 and 2021, with 92 resulting in fires and 24 in an explosion. Those incidents killed 20 people and injured 89. These incidents also resulted in the leakage of 1.8 billion cubic feet of gas. An LFP BESS fire has never left the project site and won't spread from container to container.

It is for the reasons above that we, as California Ratepayers, support the PSRP project. Please approve this project for the sake of our ratepayers and economy. It is exactly these types of projects that will help us curtail the increases we have seen in electricity prices.