

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	24-OPT-05
Project Title:	Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project
TN #:	266802
Document Title:	Sample Consultation Letter and NAHC List of Tribes
Description:	A sample of the consultation letter sent to the tribes on the NAHC list and the list of tribes.
Filer:	WILLIAM LARSON
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Public Agency
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October 22, 2025

XXXXXXXX XXXXX, Chairperson
XXXXXXXXXXXXX Tribe
1234 A Street
Colusa, CA 95932

Dear Honorable XXXXX XXXXX:

The California Energy Commission (CEC) is responsible for preparing an environmental impact report and other findings for the Corby Battery Storage System Project and invites the XXXXXXXXXXXX Tribe to consult regarding this project. The CEC will conduct tribal consultation in accordance with the Public Resources Code, sections 21080.3.1 and 25545.7.4, as well as California Code of Regulations, Title 20, section 1878.5. This consultation would focus on environmental impact and mitigation issues and is an opportunity to have your input inform the staff analysis of the proposed project. The CEC staff received a negative result from a Sacred Lands File search from the California Native American Heritage Commission and would like to consult with you to better understand the concerns of California Native American tribes regarding this project.

Background

North Bay Interconnect, LLC and Corby Energy Storage, LLC (applicant) filed an opt-in application on November 1, 2024, for the Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project, a battery energy storage system (BESS) proposed in unincorporated Solano County, California. On December 9, 2024, the CEC deemed the application incomplete and docketed a letter detailing the information deficiencies and requests for additional information needed for staff to complete its environmental analyses of the proposed project. On October 17, 2025, after receiving additional data, the CEC staff determined that the application was complete.

Project Location and Existing Conditions

The project site includes the entirety of the 40.3-acre project parcel in unincorporated Solano County, California. The project also includes approximately 26.6 acres of offsite components consisting of a 1.1-mile-long generation tie (gen-tie) line situated on an approximately 19.4-acre gen-tie corridor, portions of which will be installed overhead and underground. The project also includes an approximately 7.2-acre offsite gen-tie laydown area

adjacent to the gen-tie corridor. The site is located approximately 250 feet southeast of the City of Vacaville jurisdictional boundary, and approximately 5 miles northeast of the city center. The project site is currently used as agricultural land for row crops such as wheat or barley and agricultural lands and single-building residential homes affiliated with agricultural use exist around the project site in all directions. Interstate 80 (I-80) is approximately 0.6-mile northwest of the Project site and the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Vaca-Dixon Substation is located across I-80, approximately 0.65-mile northwest of the project site.

Project Description

The project would include a 300-megawatt (MW), up to 1,200-megawatt-hour (MWh) BESS, associated project substation, inverters, and other ancillary facilities, such as fencing, sound barrier, roads, optional groundwater well, water tank, stormwater retention basins, storage containers, and a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system. The project would be composed of lithium-iron phosphate batteries (Model CBFAD batteries manufactured by Contemporary Amperex Technology Company are proposed), inverters, transformers, a switchyard, a substation, and other associated equipment to interconnect into the existing PG&E Vaca-Dixon Substation across I-80 and northwest of the project site, using an approximately 1.1-mile long 230-kilovolt (kV) gen-tie line, portions of which would be installed overhead and underground. The underground portion of the gen-tie line would run east-west parallel to and crossing Kilkenney Road, either with acquired easements on adjacent parcels or within the Kilkenney Road right-of-way. The overhead portions would include two structures on the project site, four structures between Kilkenney Road and I-80 on private land owned by the app easements on adjacent parcels or within the applicant, and up to four structures north of I-80 on PG&E-owned property adjacent to the Vaca-Dixon Substation, for a total of up to 10 overhead gen-tie structures.

To accommodate the interconnection of the project, PG&E would install a new 230-kV Double Bus Bay structure with associated foundations and supports on approximately 0.6 acre of the existing substation. This new bay would house four switch support structures and associate equipment for the new 230-kV connection. PG&E would also construct, own, and operate the portion of the gen-tie between the point of change of ownership pole immediately south of I-80 and the first point of interconnection at the Vaca-Dixon Substation, including five of the 10 structures.

The project would be unstaffed after construction, with operational control from an offsite control room through the SCADA system. Operation staff would perform periodic inspections and maintenance as necessary.

CEC Opt-In Process

On June 30, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill (AB) 205, which authorized the CEC to establish a new certification program for eligible non-fossil-fueled power plants and related facilities to optionally seek certification ("Opt-in" Certification) from the CEC. Requirements for the Opt-in Certification program are in Chapter 6.2, Division 15, of the Public Resources Code, sections 25545–25545.13. Regulations to implement the program can be found in California Code of Regulations, Title 20, sections 1875–1882. The Opt-in Certification program is in effect through June 30, 2029.

Under this new Opt-in Certification process, the types of facilities that can be certified by the CEC now includes solar photovoltaic and terrestrial wind energy power plants of 50 MW or more, energy storage facilities of 200 MWh or more, the electric transmission lines from these facilities to the first point of interconnection with the existing transmission grid, and facilities that manufacture or assemble clean energy or storage technologies or their components with a capital investment of at least \$250 million. In addition, thermal power plants of 50 MW or more that do not use fossil or nuclear fuels may choose the Opt-in Certification process rather than the CEC's Application for Certification process.

The CEC is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is required to prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for any facility that elects to opt-in to the CEC's jurisdiction. With exceptions, the issuance of a certificate by the CEC for an eligible facility is in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law, and supersedes any applicable statute, ordinance, or regulation of any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law. The CEC's authority under the Opt-in Certification program does not supersede the authorities of the California State Lands Commission, the California Coastal Commission, or the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, if applicable, the State Water Resources Control Board or applicable regional water quality control board, or, in the case of manufacturing facilities, the applicable local air quality management district or the Department of Toxic Substances Control.

The CEC is required to prepare an EIR and make its decision on the application within 270 days of receiving a complete application. The CEC will also conduct public meetings in the project area, including an informational and public scoping meeting during the development of the EIR, and a public workshop during the 60-

day comment period on the Draft EIR, which will be included as part of the CEC's Staff Assessment of the application. After the conclusion of the public comment period, the CEC staff will publish an updated Staff Assessment (which will include a Final EIR), and the CEC's Executive Director's recommendation on whether the CEC should certify the EIR and issue a certificate for construction and operation of the proposed project. The updated Staff Assessment and Executive Director's recommendation will be published at least 30 days before the CEC's decision at a public meeting.

The other agencies that retain their permitting authorities must take final action on any additional permits within 90 days of the CEC issuing a certificate.

Participation

In addition to the tribal consultation required under CEQA and the Warren-Alquist Act, the CEC welcomes your participation in the Opt-in review process. Pursuant to the Public Resources Code, section 25545.7.4, we are providing the link to the Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project, hosted on the CEC website at:

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/energy-storage-system/corby-battery-energy-storage-system-project>

To stay informed about this project and receive notice of upcoming meetings and workshops, sign up for the project subscription, which can be accessed on the same project webpage. Once enrolled, automatic email notifications are sent when documents and notices are posted to the project webpage.

The CEC staff welcomes your comments and questions, which are important to staff's analysis of the proposed project. Please do not hesitate to contact:

California Energy Commission
ATTN: William Larson
715 P Street, MS-16
Sacramento, CA 95814
william.larson@energy.ca.gov
530-304-9019

Sincerely,

Gabriel Roark

Gabriel Roark
Assistant Tribal Liaison, Siting &
Compliance Supervisor,
Cultural Resources Unit

Attachments:
Project Location Maps

[Corby Vicinity Map.pdf](#)

[Corby Site Map.pdf](#)

NextEra Energy
Corby Battery Energy
Storage System Project

Figure 1-2
Site Location

Solano County, CA

- Applicant-Owned Parcels
- Township Range
- Section
- Proposed Features**
 - Gen-tie (Overhead)
 - Gen-tie (Underground; Option 1)
 - Gen-tie (Underground; Option 2)
 - Gen-tie (Overhead; PG&E)
- Project Site
- Transportation**
 - Interstate Highway
 - Road



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Reference Map



1:24,000 NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

0 1 2 Miles

Source: ESRI, USDA NAIP, US CENSUS, BTS

NextEra Energy Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project

Figure 1-3 Project Layout

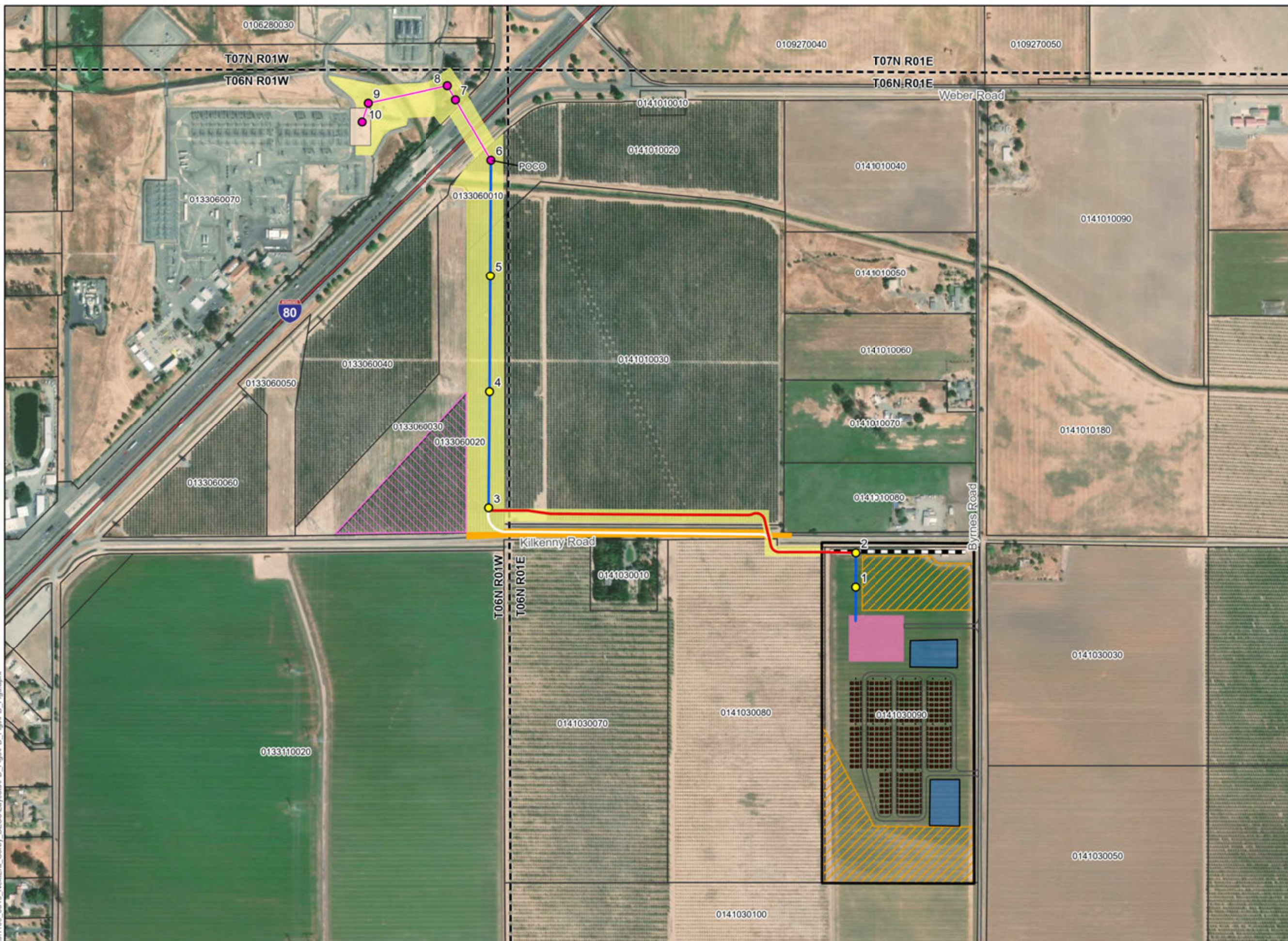
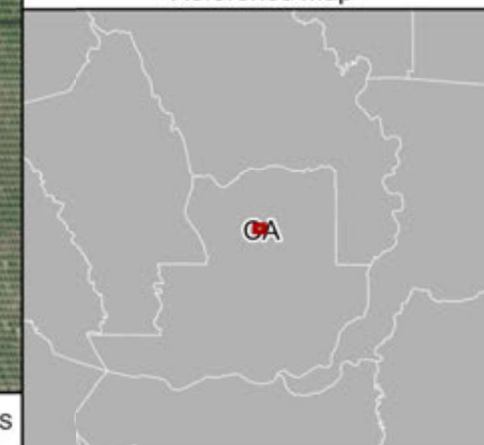
Solano County, CA

- Parcels
- Township Range
- Proposed Features**
 - Proposed Pole
 - Gen-tie (Overhead)
 - Gen-tie (Underground; Option 1)
 - Gen-tie (Underground; Option 2)
 - Sound Barrier
 - Access Road
 - Construction Laydown Area
 - Gen-tie Corridor (Option 1)
 - Gen-tie Corridor (Option 2)
 - Gen-tie Laydown Area
 - BESS Array
 - Project Site
 - Stormwater Pond
 - Project Substation
 - New Corby Bay
- PG&E Features**
 - Pole Locations (PG&E)
 - Gen-tie (Overhead; PG&E)



NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

Reference Map



1:6,500

NAD 1983 StatePlane California II FIPS 0402 Feet

0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Source: ESRI, USDA NAIP, US CENSUS, BTS

List of Tribes from NAHC

- Cachil Dehe Band of Wintun Indians of the Colusa Indian Community
- Cortina Rancheria - Kletsel Dehe Band of Wintun Indians
- Grindstone Rancheria of Wintun-Wailaki
- Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation