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Comment Received From: Michelle Austin
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Opposition

Dear Council Members and Supervisors,

As a new resident of Vacaville—having lived here for just over a year—I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed lithium-ion battery energy storage facility being considered in our community. I chose Vacaville for its sense of safety, open space, and family-friendly environment, and I am deeply concerned that this project could compromise those very qualities.

Public safety risks

Large-scale lithium-ion battery sites have experienced serious fire and explosion incidents in other areas. The risk of thermal runaway, chemical release, or toxic smoke is not hypothetical—it has happened elsewhere, even in well-regulated systems. With this facility located near homes, schools, and major highways, the potential impact of an emergency event is unacceptably high.

Location concerns

Vacaville is not an industrial hub for this type of high-hazard infrastructure. Siting such a project near residential neighborhoods, farmland, and critical facilities is inconsistent with responsible urban planning.

Transparency and community involvement

Many residents, including newer ones like myself, were unaware of this proposal until recently. It feels as though the community has not been given adequate opportunity to review the risks or voice concerns before decisions move forward.

Request for action

I respectfully ask that the City and County pause this project until comprehensive, independent safety and environmental studies are completed—and that any future consideration prioritize industrial-zoned areas far from residential communities.

Vacaville is growing quickly, and thoughtful planning is essential to protect both current and future residents. Please ensure that safety, transparency, and community trust guide your decision-making process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.