

**DOCKETED**

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*Comment Received From: Frances Ray*  
*Submitted On: 10/28/2025*  
*Docket Number: 24-OPT-05*

**Opposition to the Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)  
Project-Vacaville CA**

I have attached a letter for review. Thank you for your time, and I hope to have my voice heard as a member of my community in Vacaville, California.

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

**Subject:**

## **Opposition to the Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Project – Vacaville, CA**

Dear Vacaville City Council Members,

My name is Frances Ray, and I have been a proud resident of Vacaville since 2016. I am also a mother of two young children, both under the age of six. My family and I have built our lives here, and I have always envisioned raising my children in this beautiful community, surrounded by safety, stability, and opportunity.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in Vacaville. While I understand the need for sustainable energy solutions, the proposed project poses serious concerns for public safety, environmental health, and the well-being of local families.

My primary concerns include the following:

- 1. Public Health and Safety Risks**

The facility's proximity to residential neighborhoods and a Level II trauma center hospital presents a clear danger in the event of fire, explosion, or chemical release. Lithium-ion batteries are known to carry thermal runaway risks that can release toxic gases and are difficult to extinguish once ignited. The impact on first responders, surrounding homes, and nearby healthcare facilities cannot be overstated.

- 2. Fire Hazard and Environmental Impact**

In the event of a fire, the release of hazardous materials and smoke could have devastating long-term consequences for air and water quality. The city has already faced increased strain on its fire services, and this project would only compound the risks and costs associated with emergency response and post-fire environmental remediation.

- 3. Strain on Local Infrastructure and Resources**

With thousands of new homes approved and constructed in Vacaville over the past few years, our water and electrical resources are already under significant pressure. Adding an industrial-scale BESS project will only increase the burden on taxpayers, who ultimately shoulder the costs of infrastructure maintenance, safety training, and environmental management.

- 4. Homeowner Insurance and Property Value Impacts**

Projects of this type can drive up homeowner insurance rates, discourage new families from moving in, and negatively impact property values in surrounding neighborhoods — eroding the sense of stability and pride this community has worked so hard to build.

##### 5. **Local Control and Regulatory Concerns**

The project's use of **Assembly Bill 205's (AB205) opt-in program** appears to be an attempt to circumvent local review and public input. This undermines the ability of our community and elected officials to ensure that development aligns with Vacaville's safety standards and long-term planning goals. It's also worth noting that there is currently an active moratorium on battery energy storage projects while regulations are still being developed — yet this proposal is moving forward in spite of that.

Vacaville is a growing and vibrant city that should continue to prioritize families, safety, and environmental stewardship. Projects like this threaten the very qualities that make our town special and will undoubtedly deter new families and businesses from calling Vacaville home.

I respectfully urge the City Council and all decision-making bodies to deny approval of the Corby Battery Energy Storage System project and any similar lithium-ion BESS projects proposed in the future. Please allow the voices of local residents to be heard and protect the safety, health, and integrity of our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Frances Kyoung A. Ray

Vacaville Resident and Mother of Two

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*Frances Kyoung A. Ray*