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Letter Opposing Corby BESS Project site on Kilkenny & Byrnes Rd

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to state my strong opposition to the Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Project at its proposed location. While I understand and support the importance of renewable energy and responsible storage solutions, this industrial-scale project is not suitable for a rural, residential, and agriculturally zoned area. The placement of this facility poses unacceptable safety risks, threatens agricultural integrity, and would permanently alter the character, livability, and environmental quality of the surrounding community.

In the event of a fire, chemical release, thermal runaway, or explosion, nearby homes, families, and farmland could experience catastrophic and irreversible impacts. The inability to fully mitigate emergency response risks, including long-duration fires and toxic smoke. This further reinforces that this is not an appropriate setting for industrial-level energy storage infrastructure. Additionally, the introduction of this facility would dramatically and permanently alter the rural environment through visual, noise, and light pollution.

Nighttime light pollution and spillover pose significant concerns. Industrial-grade security and operational lighting would be required around the clock for surveillance, safety, and maintenance, which would substantially increase ambient nighttime illumination in the surrounding area. This artificial lighting could spill over onto nearby homes and residential properties, diminishing privacy, disrupting sleep patterns, and negatively impacting overall quality of life. Additionally, the disruption of natural darkness may affect the local ecosystem by altering wildlife behavior, nocturnal activity, and migratory patterns for sensitive species that rely on a naturally dark environment.

Visual intrusion and community character impacts must also be considered. The industrial appearance of the facility, including large battery containers, perimeter fencing, surveillance systems, and continuous lighting is incompatible with the existing rural, agricultural, and residential landscape. Such features could diminish scenic agricultural views, reduce residential enjoyment of the surrounding land, and create a lasting sense of industrialization that is inconsistent with the area's existing identity. Transforming productive agricultural land into an illuminated industrial energy site fundamentally contradicts established expectations for rural land use and undermines long-standing community planning and environmental values.

For these reasons, including public safety concerns, land-use incompatibility, visual and environmental disruption, and the irreversible alteration of rural character. I urge you not to approve the Corby BESS project at its proposed location. Instead, this type of facility should be placed in an appropriately zoned industrial area where suitable infrastructure, safety buffers, and emergency response capacity already exist.

Thank you,

Felicia Miller