

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	24-OPT-05
Project Title:	Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project
TN #:	267506
Document Title:	Alex Carpineta Comments - Letter Opposing Corby BESS Project site
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Alex Carpineta
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	11/17/2025 11:35:57 AM
Docketed Date:	11/17/2025

Comment Received From: Alex Carpineta
Submitted On: 11/17/2025
Docket Number: 24-OPT-05

Letter Opposing Corby BESS Project site

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Alex Carpineta from the Solano county area. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Project in its current form due to the serious deficiencies in its smoke, toxic gas, and risk assessment analysis. The project relies heavily on idealized computer-generated simulations that do not accurately represent the unpredictable and catastrophic nature of an actual lithium-ion thermal runaway fire. The applicant has not provided any guarantee that toxic smoke produced during such an event will not reach nearby homes, leaving surrounding residents and agricultural areas exposed to unacceptable and unmitigated health risks. I have family and grandparents that will be in direct contact with this smoke in the case of a fire leading to high risk of health issues.

The current smoke plume assessment is based entirely on theoretical modeling, not real-world evidence. While modeling can be useful, it does not capture the chaotic behavior of full-scale BESS fires, which have repeatedly demonstrated unpredictable growth, complex propagation pathways, and highly toxic emissions. The output of any simulation is also entirely dependent on weather conditions such as wind direction, wind speed, temperature, and atmospheric stability all of which constantly change and cannot be controlled or predicted during an emergency. Even a small, unexpected shift in wind direction could send toxic gases, including hydrogen fluoride, directly toward neighboring homes and properties. We are essentially being asked to accept a “best-case scenario” projection instead of a scientifically validated, worst-case emergency planning analysis.

Additionally, the current risk evaluation only considers a single container experiencing thermal runaway. This does not reflect the realistic maximum hazard presented by the site. A true and responsible analysis must include a cascading, multi-container failure scenario, as this could occur from a major power system malfunction, seismic activity, or even a targeted cyberattack that disables safety controls. Emergency response agencies do not prepare based on optimistic outcomes, and neither should the Commission. A comprehensive air-plume dispersion analysis must define the evacuation and shelter-in-place zones using concentrations that reflect Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health thresholds, not assumptions that underestimate harm.

Given these unresolved risks, public safety must take priority over developer convenience or project timing. Until a full, independent, and scientifically verifiable worst-case air-plume analysis is completed, demonstrating that nearby homes can be protected under all foreseeable meteorological conditions, the project cannot be considered safe. I respectfully request that the Commission reject the current risk assessment and require a complete reevaluation that includes a cascading failure scenario before any approval is considered.

Thank you, Alex Carpineta - Solano County