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Comment Received From: Mackenzie Maas

Submitted On: 11/17/2025 Docket Number: 24-OPT-05

Opposition to Corby BESS Project site

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Mackenzie Maas, and I am a long-time resident of Solano County who cares deeply about the safety, stability, and long-term well-being of the families who live here. This community is not just where I live, it is where I hope to continue building my future, and where many of us dream of raising our children with a sense of security, peace, and belonging. For this reason, I am firmly opposed to the Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Project and the way it is attempting to move forward outside of the local standards that were put in place to protect us.

I am extremely concerned that this project is advancing through the state "Opt-In" pathway, which allows the developer to bypass Solano County's newly adopted BESS ordinance — a set of regulations that was carefully created to ensure that large-scale, high-risk industrial energy storage sites are placed in appropriate areas away from homes, families, and agricultural land. These guidelines were not created out of fear, but out of responsibility, scientific research, and lessons learned from real emergencies involving battery storage facilities. Our local leaders acted with caution and care because they are accountable to the people who actually live here, and their decisions were based on what is safest for our community.

It is incredibly distressing to know that the Corby Project is being proposed in a location that our County has already deemed inappropriate for industrial battery storage. The fact that it may also avoid complying with the 300-foot residential safety setback requirement, a protective buffer specifically written to prevent harm in the event of toxic smoke, fire, or explosion raises serious, legitimate concerns about public safety. These are not exaggerated fears. These are real-life consequences that we, as residents, would be forced to face if something goes wrong.

Those of us who live here would be the ones to wake up in the middle of the night to emergency sirens, evacuations, and fear not the developers, not the out-of-town investors, and not the agencies reviewing paperwork from afar. We should not be placed at risk simply because a project found a more convenient approval channel.

As members of this community, we depend on our local government and its ordinances to protect us. It feels disheartening and unjust to see a project attempt to sidestep rules that were created in good faith and with expert guidance. If these local standards are ignored now, what protection do we have in the future?

We are not asking for special treatment only that the safety measures already adopted on behalf of residents are respected and enforced. I sincerely urge the Commission to honor Solano County's zoning decisions, safety requirements, and community protections, and to deny any project that cannot meet or refuses to meet them.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and responsibility to the people who call this place home.

Sincerely,

Mackenzie Maas - Solano County Resident