

DOCKETED

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Vote NO on Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project

Dear California Energy Commission,

I posted a comment last week, but I feel like I need to elaborate more on how I feel about this project. I strongly urge you to vote no on the Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project on the intersection of Kilkenny Road and Byrnes Road in Solano County. I have many concerns, as do my family and community, about the installation and running of this project which I will be discussing in this letter.

First, you can list all of your safety and environmental protections that this facility follows, and you can believe that major risks can be controlled or avoided, but that is not the truth. You state that this facility will be monitored 24/7, yet it will be unstaffed once construction has finished and will be remotely monitored from FLORIDA, not even in the state which the facility will reside. I understand that monitoring will be offsite, which is a terrifying thought to have when I live right across the street from where this would be installed. Do you have that much faith in technology? Does technology not have issues and encounter problems that could be disastrous to those sleeping and living close by? You state that you take precautions and often undergo inspections and maintenance, but if an accident was to occur it would have a very high impact on those of us who live nearby (potentially fatal) and would ruin important agricultural land that families depend upon to survive and feed their families. Let's not forget the wildlife that makes homes within this area depend upon it, and pets or livestock that also call this area home.

The land that has been purchased for this project was BEAUTIFUL ag land at one point, rows and rows of almond trees that bloomed in the spring to create a beautiful view out my front windows. People often ride their horses or take their pets for walks, my family included, along this land. I have many memories of riding horses along this land any time of year throughout my life without any fear of what was on the land or if it could cause my family any harm. This project would damage useful agriculture land that could be used to feed numerous families, yours included. Altering this land would alter the habitat and ecosystem of wildlife in the area, causing a change in the yield of crops or reducing the ecosystem services. Soil and water contamination is a large fear in my mind, especially with a Solano Irrigation ditch nestled right up to the land which irrigates many fields and livestock. Not only that, the contamination could affect our water wells, altering the water we, our pets, and livestock depend on to survive. Would you want that potentially disastrous risk in your family or your backyard and endangering those you love? I wouldn't think so and I would hope you would fight like we are to ensure it never is placed in an area where it could affect them.

Batteries contain an array of different materials that pose risks to humans, wildlife, and the soil we depend on to grow crops or feed our livestock. A potential leak or disaster that could put those materials in contact with any living thing could prove a life altering nightmare, not to mention if a fire was to occur. You cannot 100% guarantee that

nothing will ever happen, that no disaster will ever occur and alter the life of myself, my family, the community surrounding it, and the wildlife here. How would you feel if these risks were being put very close to your sons, daughters, sisters, brothers, mothers, or fathers when the energy from it would not even benefit them in any way? The disasters of these projects have shown to be extreme and long lasting, not to mention that the outcome of this station would be going to another city while it affects mine.

My home, which is located right across the ditch from the project, has been in my family for decades. I have grown up here and created many memories and I would like to continue to build more without the risks or eye sore this project presents. My grandfather, who passed away, showed us what family was all about and taught us how to ride horses on this property since he purchased it and built everything on this property from the ground up with the help of my dad and uncles. He would have fought tooth and nail to ensure this project didn't go in and would have done it with endearing strength I have seen in so few. Putting this battery storage system in would mean that the property value would plummet, which also means all the hard work my family has put into it would mean nothing in the long run. My family has worked hard to maintain and preserve this land "not to see it endangered by a high-risk industrial project next door.

I don't write this letter to belittle the need for energy in communities, I write this letter for the safety of my family, the community surrounding it, and the memories I wish to continue to make here with them. If you were to put this battery storage in, you would be putting myself, my family, and all living things nearby in danger. It's not an if, it's a WHEN something will happen to endanger us. These are our homes and livelihoods at risk, so, again, I urge you strongly to vote NO on this project.

Thank you for your time,
Madison Cole