

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	24-OPT-05
Project Title:	Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project
TN #:	267584
Document Title:	Corby BESS Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting
Description:	Presentation
Filer:	Yiming Luo
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	11/18/2025 10:46:46 AM
Docketed Date:	11/18/2025



Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project Application

Informational and Environmental Scoping Meeting

Docket Number: 24-OPT-05

November 6, 2025



Pledge of Allegiance



**I pledge allegiance to
the flag of the United
States of America, and
to the Republic for
which it stands, one
Nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty
and justice for all.**



Meeting Logistics

- Meeting is hybrid and recorded.
- Instruction for Zoom closed captioning service:
 - **To Activate:** click on “live transcript” icon and then choose either “show subtitle” or “view full transcript”.
 - **To Stop:** click "exit" from “live transcript” or select “hide subtitle” icon.
- Please be mindful of the audio for those participating online; speak slowly and clearly.
- Agenda includes time for public comment and input.



Agenda

- **Welcome**
- **CEC Staff Presentation**
 - Opt-In Certification Program
- **Applicant Presentation**
 - Proposed project
- **CEC Staff Presentation**
 - Staff Assessment and Scope and Content of the Environmental Analysis
- **CEC Presentation**
 - Public participation and California Native American tribal consultation opportunities
- **Government Comments**
 - California Native American tribes
 - Government Agencies
 - Elected Officials
- **Public Comment**
- **Next Steps**
- **Closing Comments**
- **Adjourn**

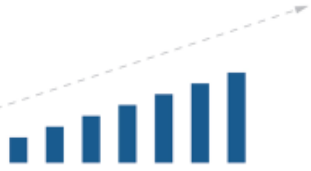


**The California Energy
Commission is leading the
state to a 100%
clean energy future for all.**



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**Advancing State
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Transportation**



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Energy Infrastructure**



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Commissioner



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Welcome



Opt-In Certification Process

**Presented by Kaycee Chang
Supervisor, CEQA Project Management Unit**



Opt-In Certification Quick Facts

- Certain clean energy development projects may choose a consolidated state permitting option
- CEC is the CEQA lead agency



Solar photovoltaic or terrestrial wind



Energy storage systems



Stationary power plant using thermal energy



Specific manufacturing or assembly facilities for clean energy



Hydrogen production



Opt-In Agency Coordination

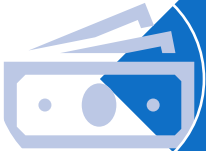




CEC Findings Required to Approve Opt-In Projects



Signed community benefits agreement



Net positive economic benefit to the local government that would have had permitting authority (rebuttable presumption)



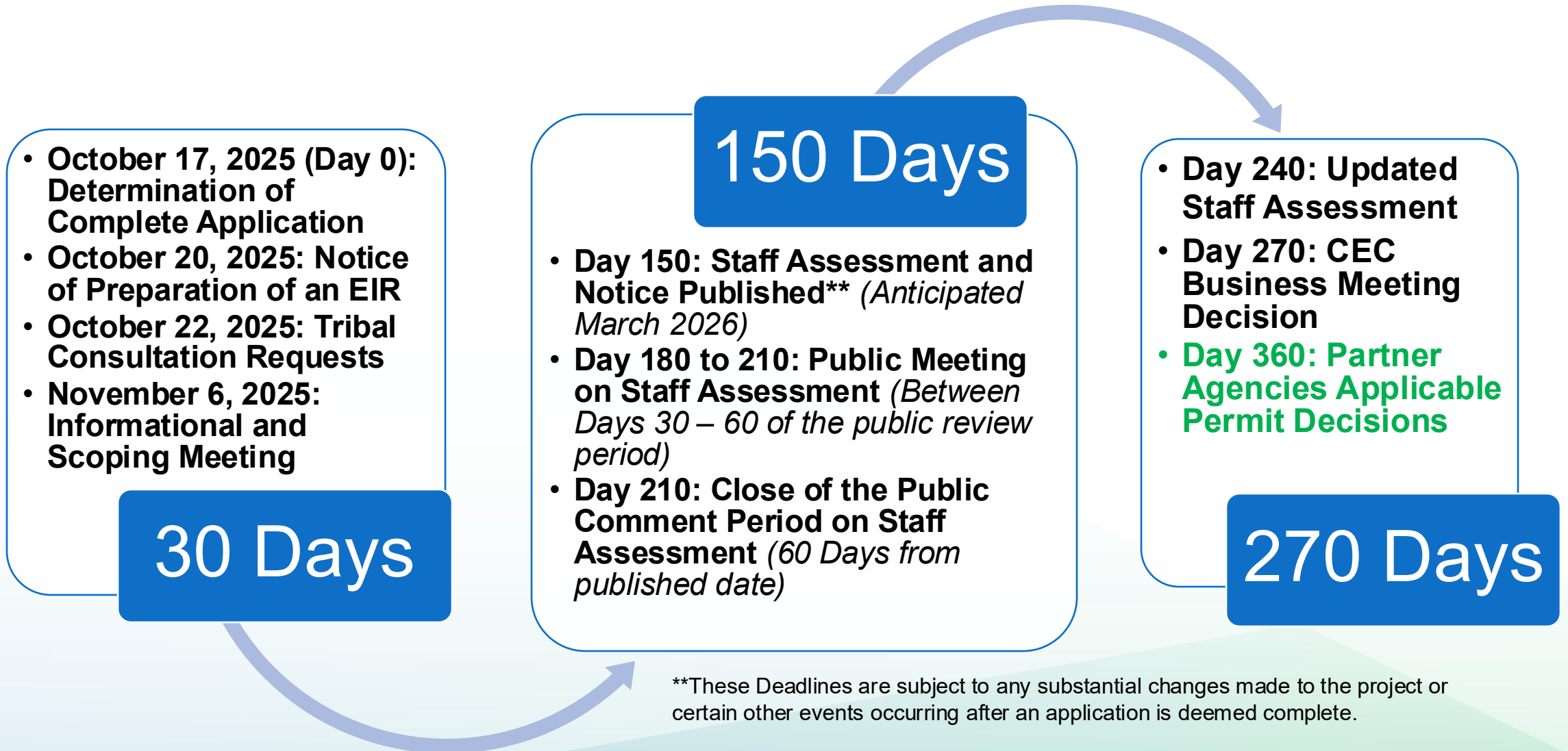
Commits to paying prevailing wage to skilled and trained workforce



Significant effects of the project will be avoided or mitigated, or statement of overriding considerations for significant effects found infeasible to avoid or mitigate



270 Day Process Milestones





Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement



If a proposed project is certified by the CEC, then during the operational life of the facility, CEC staff will:

- Verify compliance with license
- Perform formal site inspections
- Require monthly and annual compliance reports
- Review monthly and annual compliance reports
- Investigate complaints
- Conduct unannounced inspections



CEC Opt-In Webpage



Opt-In Certification Program
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/power-plants/opt-certification-program>

- Proposed projects under review
- Opt-In fact sheet
- Opt-In FAQ
- Opt-In process timeline



Applicant Presentation on the Proposed Project



- Nov. 6, 2025

Corby Energy Storage

- Public Scoping Meeting
- ***CorbyProject.com***
- NextEra Energy Resources

Who is NextEra Energy Resources, LLC?

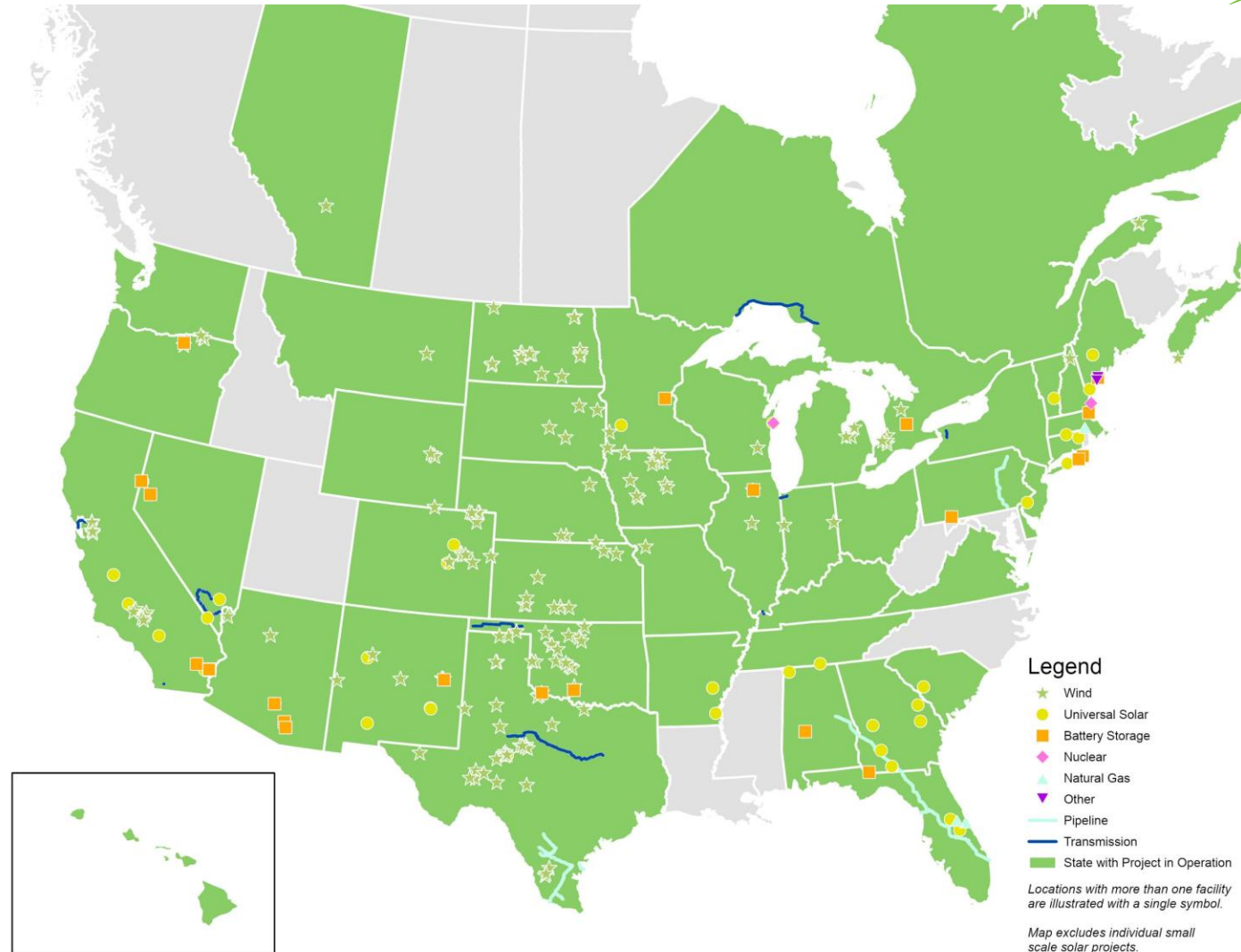
We are one of the country's leading energy infrastructure developers

- **American-owned and operated**
- **Developed ~20% of operating BESS sites in the U.S.¹**
- **Approximately 30.6 GW of generation projects in operation in the U.S. and Canada**
- **Invested nearly \$40 billion in wind, solar and battery energy storage since 2012**
- **In California:**
 - Approximately \$12.6 billion total infrastructure investment
 - \$26.9 million annual land payments
 - \$29.5 million in property taxes in 2024

1. Wood Mackenzie BESS market study (2024) and NextEra Energy investor materials supplemental resources – Generation Portfolio 12/31/2024

Our company

- **We are a world leader in battery energy storage**
- Investments in 41 states in the U.S. and in Canada including more than 50 battery energy storage projects in operation
- NextEraEnergyResources.com

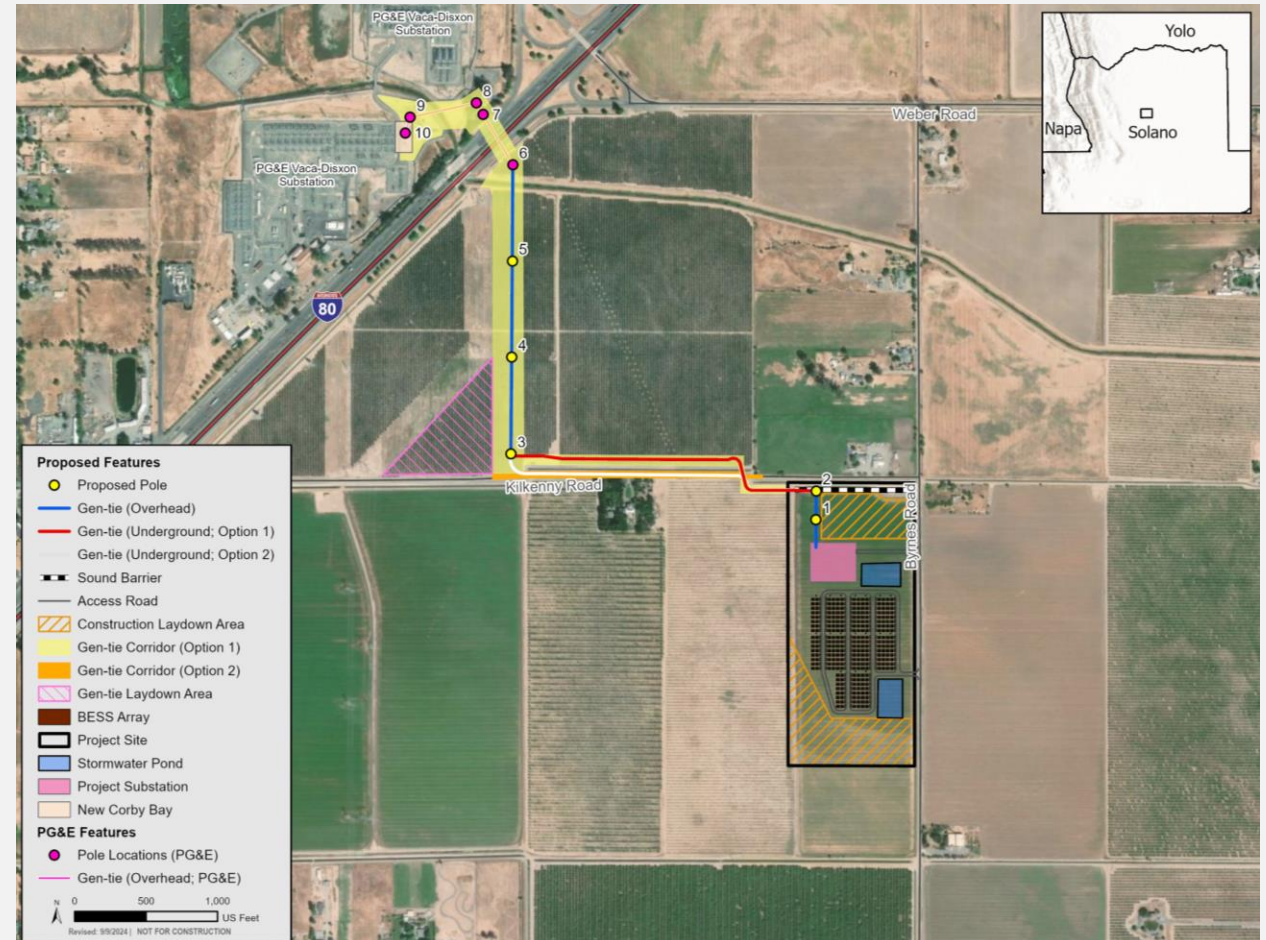


Need for battery energy storage projects in California

- **California will need to build unprecedented amount of renewable energy resources to meet its climate and energy goals**
- **California's renewable energy targets include a major increase in battery energy storage**
 - Optimize the way power grid delivers renewable electricity to customers (even after the sun goes down or the wind stops blowing)
 - Provide reliable energy on demand and help keep the lights on even during the hottest months of the year
 - Avoid the need for some system upgrades, including big transmission projects
- **California Public Utilities Commission requires that all California utilities install 15.5 GW of energy storage by 2027**
- **The need will increase to 19.5 GW by 2035 and 52.0 GW by 2045**

Corby Energy Storage project overview

- **300-megawatt, 4-hour battery storage facility (1,200 MWh)**
- **Signed power purchase agreements to deliver power to the region by April 2027**
- **Project would be located on approximately 16 acres within a 40.3-acre privately owned parcel in unincorporated Solano County**
- **Design includes**
 - Proven lithium-ion battery technology
 - Battery enclosures
 - Power conversion system and collection
 - Project substation
 - Gen-tie (underground and overhead) to the PG&E Vaca-Dixon Substation



Strategic site selection

- **Strategic proximity:** Balanced proximity to load centers with developed neighborhoods to minimize impacts on residential areas
- **Efficient energy delivery:** Sited close to the existing Vaca-Dixon substation to reduce energy losses and avoid the need for long transmission lines
 - Only major substation within a 50-mile radius without congestion that can support a standalone battery project
- **Avoids costly upgrades and stays on schedule:**
 - The Birds Landing substation, near Lambie Industrial Park and our existing wind sites, is congested and requires extensive system upgrades
 - Connecting a project in these areas to the distant Vaca-Dixon substation (13 and 19.5 miles) would create additional permitting and construction challenges
 - Both options result in delays and increased costs due to extensive system upgrades and increased energy losses for the load serving entities to pass on to the ratepayers

Project benefits

Corby Energy Center will build, own and operate the project for ~30 years, fostering a long-lasting relationship with the community



Grid Resiliency

- Battery storage will help keep the lights on in California during critical peak demand times



New Jobs

- Creates up to 200 construction jobs and several permanent operations jobs



Property Taxes

- Contributes over \$70 million over the life of the project to local property taxes



Community Support

- Fully executed agreement with Solano County Community Foundation, benefiting several priority needs within the county

Additional community support



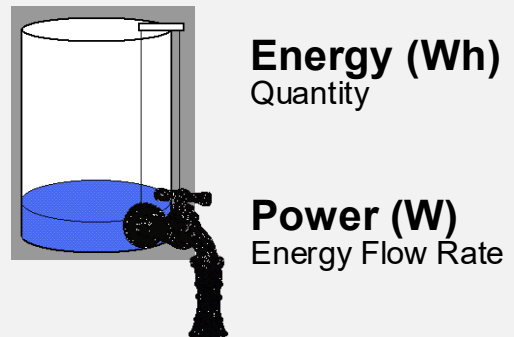
- **NextEra Energy Resources has owned and operated three wind projects in Solano County's Montezuma Hills region**
- **Since introducing Corby Energy Storage, NextEra Energy Resources has worked with the following groups to provide additional support:**
 - Solano Community College: Job fairs and Mechatronics and Automotive Technology training sessions
 - Solano Community Foundation: The Big Day of Giving
 - Solano County Economic Development Corporation: Membership
 - Vacaville Veterans: Thanksgiving and Christmas contributions
 - Vacaville Chamber of Commerce: Membership
 - Vacaville Fire Department: Toys for Tots

Technical studies

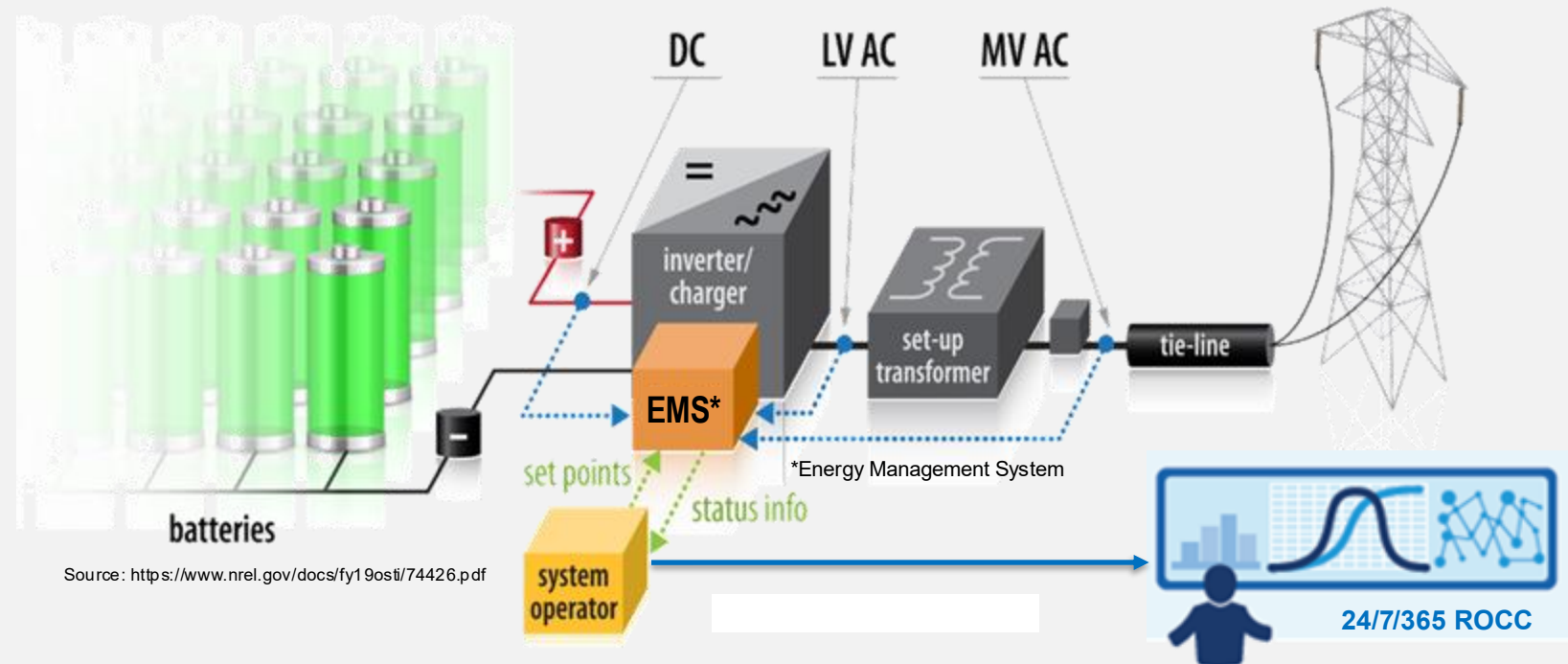
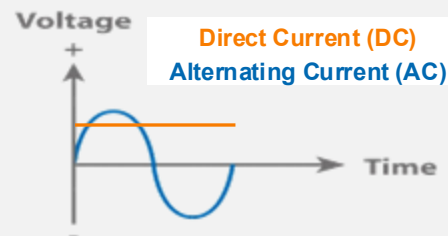
- **Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Analysis**
- **Agricultural Mitigation Plan**
- **Aquatic Resources Delineation Report**
- **Biological Resources Report**
- **Cultural Resources Technical Report**
- **DOD / FAA Assessment**
- **Emergency Response Plan**
- **Fire Safety Plan**
- **Geotechnical Study**
- **Ground Water Feasibility Study**
- **Hazardous Materials Assessment**
- **Health and Safety Plan**
- **Hydrology Study**
- **Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA)**
- **Noise Study**
- **Paleontological Resource Assessment**
- **Phase I Environmental Site Assessment**
- **Socioeconomics Report**
- **Transportation Report**
- **Visual Simulations**
- **Water Supply Assessment**
- **Wildfire Study**
- **Worker Environmental Awareness Plan**

What is a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)?

- **Energy Storage System (ESS):** One or more devices, assembled together, capable of storing energy to supply electrical energy at a future time.
- **Electrochemical Energy Storage System:** An energy storage system that converts and stores chemical energy to electrical energy and vice versa (e.g., battery energy storage system [BESS]).



Power (W) * Duration (h) = Energy (Wh)
Ex. 100 MW * 4-hrs = 400 MWh

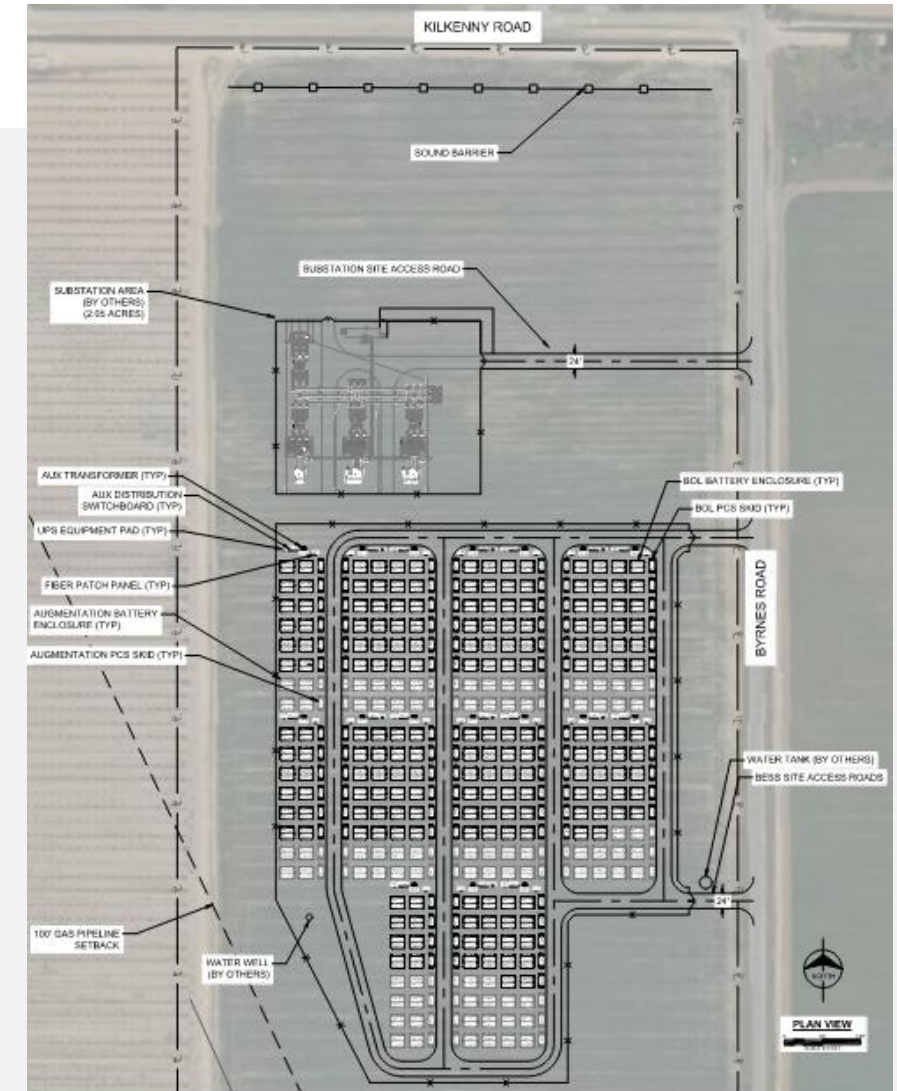


Typical BESS site



Power Conversion System (PCS)
(Inverter & Transformer)

Auxiliary Equipment
(Aux Transformer & Switchboard)



Typical BESS components

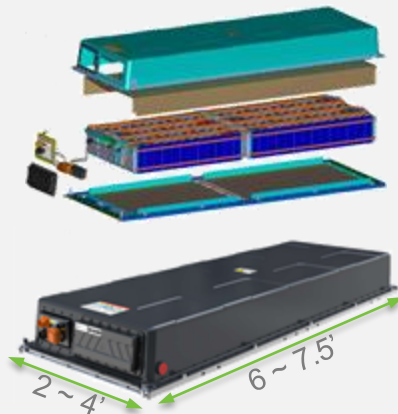
- Battery cells are connected to form battery modules
- Modules are stacked into battery racks
- Racks are assembled within outdoor rated containers

Cell



~ 3.2 - 3.7V (nominal)
~ 150 - 500 Ah
~ The size of a large book

Module



~ Sensors/instrumentation
~ Cooling plate/apparatus
~ Covers & thermal barriers

Rack



~ 1000 - 1500V
~ Localized BMS
~ Protection/Safety Devices

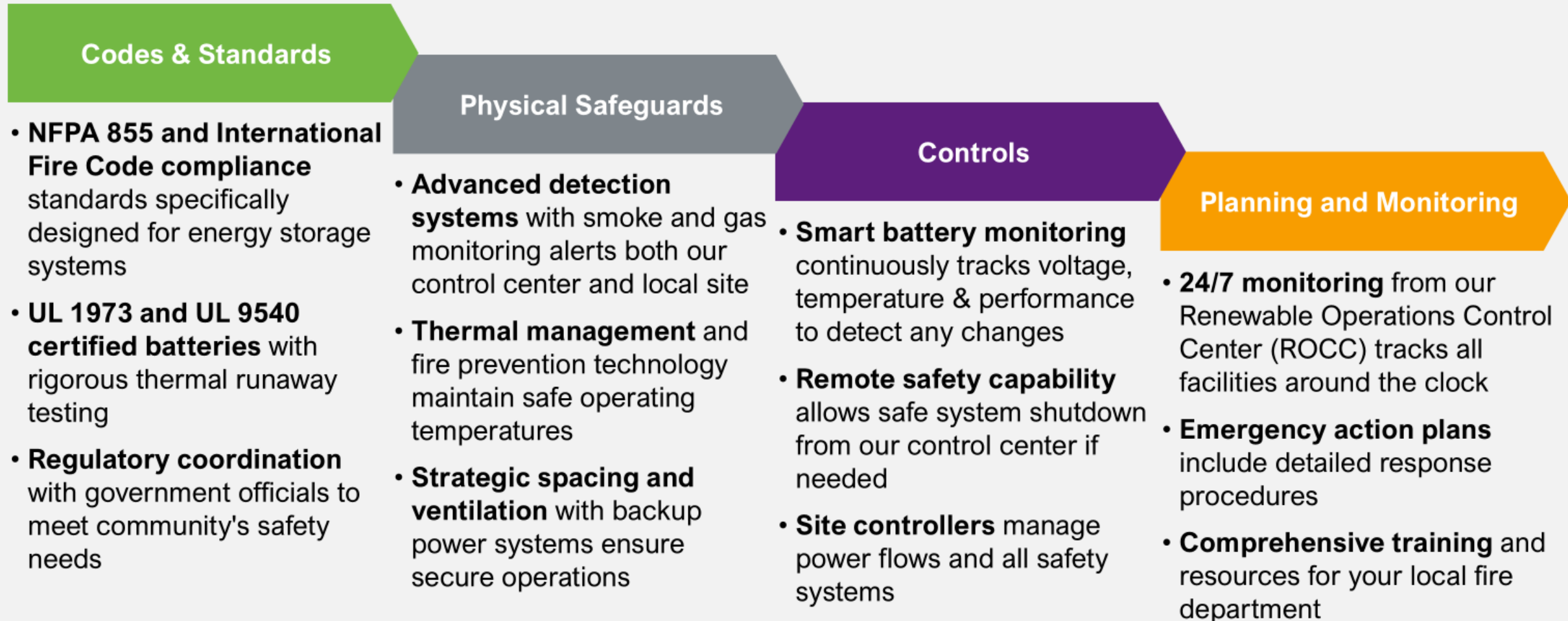
Container



~ 4 - 6 MWh
~ 20' x 8.5' x 9.5'
~ FSS & TMS

Battery energy storage systems – a layered approach to safety

Our comprehensive safety systems protect the community through multiple layers of protection



Codes and standards

- **NextEra Energy Resources designs our BESS to be in accordance with the latest editions of NFPA 855 (2023) and IFC (2024).**
 - California Fire Code (CFC) adopts IFC (with minor amendments)
- **What is the NFPA?**
 - National Fire Protection Association
 - Nonprofit organization that develops and publishes codes and standards related to fire, electrical, and building safety.
 - NFPA 855: Standard for the Installation of Energy Storage Systems
 - NFPA 70E: National Electric Code (NEC)
 - NFPA 72: National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code
- **What is the IFC?**
 - International Fire Code is published by the International Code Council (ICC)
 - The ICC is a leading global source of model codes and standards and building safety solutions that include product evaluation, accreditation, technology, training and certification.

Safety and response training

- **Virtual BESS 101**

- High level overview of NextEra Energy Resources' approach to energy safety and fire department engagement
- Led by Program Managers in collaboration with project lead or community engagement manager

- **Fire Safety Technical Presentation**

- Codes and standards for elected and fire code officials/Fire Marshal
- Led by NextEra Energy Resources' Fire Safety Engineers
- Addresses our approach to life safety code compliance
- Educates high level officials about NextEra Energy Resources' history and experience with energy storage systems

- **FD Outreach and Firefighter Training**

- Curriculum developed by the fire service using best practices and guidelines from the national organizations (NFPA, FSRI (UL), IAFC, IAFF)
- Delivered by firefighters for firefighters
- Focused on unique fire department response to energy storage systems

- **Facility Training/Emergency Response Plan Development (ERP)**

- Training on your project and ERP development
- Led by Power Generation Division
- Collaboration with jurisdictions responsible with primary response and mutual aid agencies
- Annual training as required

Thank You!



Staff Assessment and Scope and Content of the Environmental Analysis

**Presented by Eric Knight, Branch Manager
Siting and Environmental Branch**



What is a Staff Assessment?

- Comprehensive, independent, technical and environmental review prepared by the CEC
- Includes an EIR following the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act
- Key Staff Assessment information include:
 - Engineering Evaluation
 - Environmental Impact Assessment
 - Mandatory Opt-In Requirements
 - Environmental Justice Analysis
 - Compliance Conditions
 - Compliance Monitoring Requirements



Staff Assessment Purpose

- Provide objective information regarding the project's potential effects on the environment
- Identify mitigation to reduce impacts
- Describe a range of reasonable alternatives which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project
- Evaluate whether the application complies with additional licensing requirements
- Make a recommendation to the CEC Commissioners on whether to approve the project



Environmental and Engineering Impact Assessment

Environmental Evaluation	Environmental Evaluation	Engineering Evaluation
Air Quality	Land Use, Agriculture, and Forestry	Facility Design
Biological Resources	Noise and Vibration	Facility Reliability
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Public Health	Transmission System Engineering
Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources	Socioeconomics	Worker Safety and Fire Protection
Efficiency and Energy Resources	Solid Waste Management	
Geology, Paleontology, and Minerals	Transmission Line Safety and Nuisance	
Hazards, Hazardous Materials/Waste, and Wildfire	Transportation	
	Visual Resources	
	Water Resources	
	Alternatives	



Mandatory Opt-In Requirements

Requirements for Covered Project
Under the Labor Code

Legally Binding and Enforceable
Community Benefits Agreement(s)

Net Positive Economic Benefit
to the Local Government*

** Rebuttable presumption*



Preliminary Evaluation – Probable Environmental Effects

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources
- Geology, Paleontology, and Minerals
- Hazards, Hazardous Materials and Wildfire
- Land Use and Agriculture
- Noise and Vibration
- Public Health
- Transportation
- Visual Resources
- Water Resources
- Worker Safety and Fire Protection



Biological Resources

Probable Environmental Effects

Direct and Indirect Effects to Special Status Wildlife:

- Western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) - State Candidate for Listing
- Crotch's bumble bee (*Bombus crotchii*) - State Candidate for Listing
- White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*) - State Fully Protected
- Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) - State Threatened



Biological Resources

Probable Environmental Effects

- Disruption of nesting for common and special-status bird species
- Loss of habitat for common and special-status species
- Impacts to Solano Irrigation District canal
- Operational effects to movement and use of area for burrowing owls, migratory birds, and other sensitive wildlife



Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources

Probable Environmental Effects

- Records checks and surveys complete
- Three potentially eligible cultural resources within 0.5 miles
 - Vaca Dixon Historic District (eligible)
 - Vaca Peabody 230 kV Line (eligible)
 - Kilkenny Ranch (potentially eligible)
- Potential impacts to these resources will be evaluated in the EIR and mitigation measures identified as warranted
- Native American consultation is ongoing
- Will adopt protocols for unanticipated discoveries



Land Use and Agriculture

Probable Environmental Effects

Land Use Staff will assess the following effects:

- Conversion of “Important Farmland” (Prime, Statewide, Unique) as designated by the California Department of Conservation
- Conflicts with local ordinance prohibiting BESS facilities in specific zoning districts



Visual Resources

Probable Environmental Effects

- Substantial visual change to existing landscape
- Degradation of existing visual character or quality of public views of site and surroundings from Kilkenny Road and Byrnes Road
- Introduction of additional sources of daytime glare and night lighting
- Conflicts with local zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality



Worker Safety/Fire Protection

Probable Environmental Effects

- CEC will review the history of battery energy storage system (BESS) fires and evolving strategies for BESS safety
- Applicant is proposing BESS in containers using lithium iron phosphate batteries
- Transportation impacts of BESS container movements will be analyzed



Comments Submitted by the Public

Total Comments: 1,500+

- Potential for fire/thermal runaway
- Safety of battery energy storage facilities
- Potential conflicts with local land use designations
- Project location
 - Proximity to homes, agricultural land, I-80, and Travis Air Force Base
 - "Important Farmland" (Prime, Statewide, and Unique Farmland)
- Alternative: Lambie Industrial Park



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Docket Log

Docket: 24-OPT-05

Project Title: Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project

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Include: ☒ Documents ☒ Comments ☒ Transcripts





Recent Battery Energy Storage System Incidents Raised by the Public

Vistra Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility, Phase 1

Capacity: 300 MW, up to 1,200 MWh

Chemistry: Nickel, Manganese, Cobalt Lithium-Ion

Housed: In a refurbished concrete building



Source: Vistra.



Recent Battery Energy Storage System Incidents Raised by the Public – Continued

Gateway Energy Storage Facility

Capacity: 250 MW, up to 1,000 MWh

Chemistry: Nickel, Manganese, Cobalt Lithium-Ion

Housed: In a building



Source: cbcsteelbuildings.com



Evolving Strategies for Battery Safety

Older Units Indoors



New Units Outdoors



Source: Vistra (bottom).



Source: Arevon Asset Management (bottom).



Battery Systems Certified By CEC



Henrietta BESS

Kings County



Border BESS

City of San
Diego



Russell City Energy Center BESS

City of
Hayward



Marsh Landing BESS

Contra Costa
County



Stanton Energy Reliability Center BESS

Orange
County



Sentinel Energy Center BESS

Riverside
County



Safety Analysis

Presented by Dr. Alvin Greenberg



Risk Assessment and Management

Identify potential hazards

Assess probability and impacts

Recommend measures to mitigate risks/impacts



CEC Safety Evaluations

CEC will be evaluating projects against these new BESS safety standards





Installation Safety Standard



National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards for Installation of Stationary Energy Storage Systems

CEC staff requirements:

- Be compliant with the new 2026 Edition of **NFPA 855 Code**

Key Updates to 855:

- Hazard Mitigation Analysis
- Enhanced Testing Requirements
- Thermal Runaway Protection



UL Safety Standards



UL Solutions 9540-A Test Method for Evaluating Thermal Runaway

CEC staff requirements:

- Be certified to the latest edition of the **UL 9540 Standard** and to **UL 1973**



State Fire Safety Code



California Fire Code Chapter 12 Fire Safety Requirements for Stationary Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage Systems

CEC staff requirements:

- Apply the Fire Code provisions of Chapter 12



Operation and Maintenance Standards



California Public Utilities Commission General Order 167-C

CEC staff requirements:

- Review and ensure that the project follows the new operation and maintenance requirements of GO 167-C



Mitigation Measures Already Required for BESS Projects



Deflagration panels



Thermal infrared cameras



Construction and operations & maintenance fire protection program



Command and control center



Real-time environmental air monitoring



Partnerships for enhanced safety



California Battery Energy Safety Collaborative

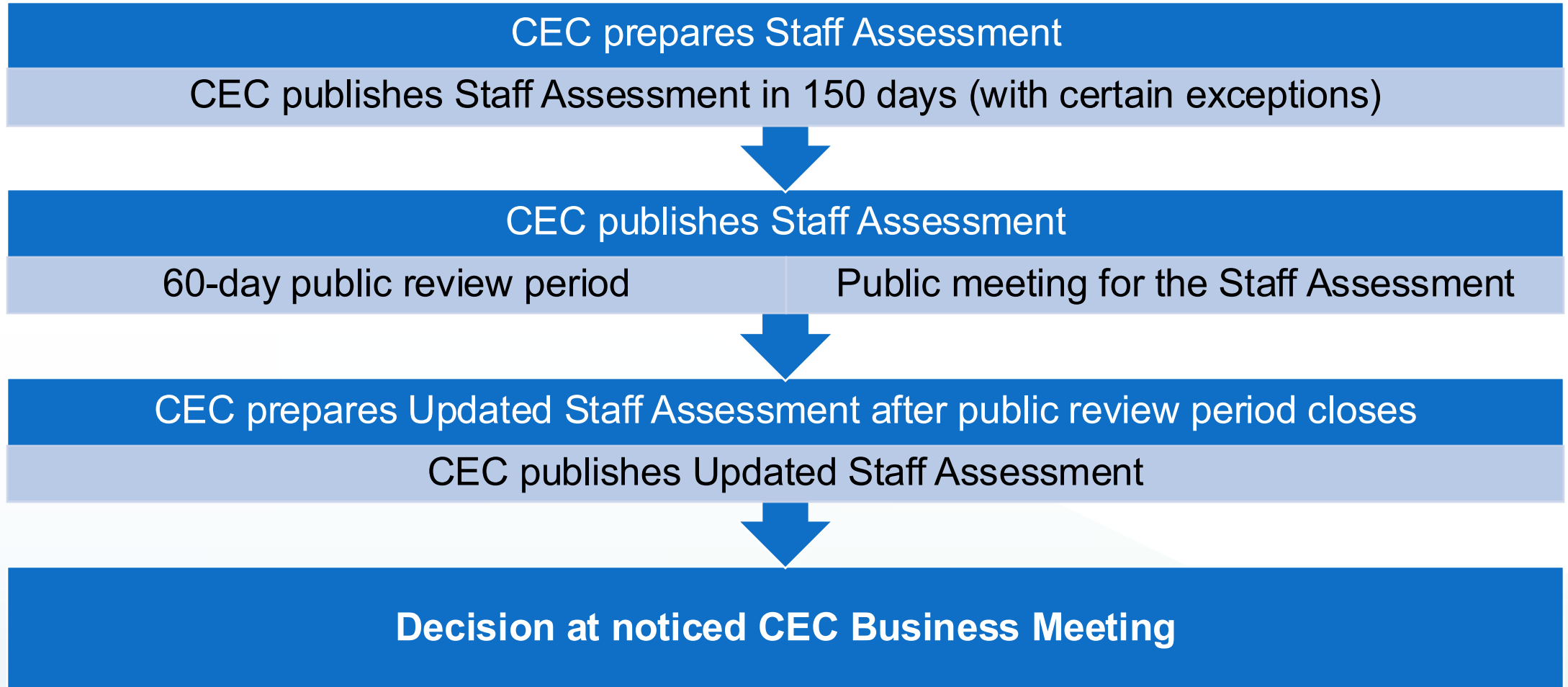
MISSION

ADVANCE BATTERY SAFETY
AND RELIABILITY





Staff Assessment / Next Steps





Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity, and Tribal Affairs



Office of the Public Advisor, Energy Equity and Tribal Affairs

Advise and support the CEC, stakeholders, California Native American tribes, and interested members of the public in meaningful engagement and participation in CEC programs, policies, and energy equity efforts.





Multiple Ways to Participate

1. Follow
2. Comment
3. Tribal Consultation





Follow Via Web, Email, and Events

Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project

PROJECT OWNER

North Bay Interconnect, LLC and Corby Energy Storage, LLC

DOCKET NUMBER

24-OPT-05

CAPACITY

300 megawatts, 1,200 megawatt-hours

LOCATION

Solano County, California

TECHNOLOGY

Battery Storage System

PROJECT STATUS

Under Review

PROJECT TYPE

Opt-In

ORIGINAL PROCEEDING

[Submit e-Comment](#)

[Submit e-Filing](#)

[Docket Log \(24-OPT-05\)](#)

[Exhibit List](#)

[Proof of Service List](#)


[Search All Power Plant Documents](#)

- Proposed project and event information
- Comment
- Sign up for email updates
- Link for project docket
- More

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/battery-storage-system/corby-battery-energy-storage-system-project>



Proposed Project Docket

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Docket: 24-OPT-05
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Include: ☒ Documents ☒ Comments ☒ Transcripts

↓ TN #	Docketed Date	Document Title	Exhibit #	To	From
266980	11/3/2025	Seann Mullen Comments - Do not build the Battery Storage Facility  2 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	Seann Mullen
266979	11/3/2025	Kimberly Nalette Comments - Vacaville Residents Against Corby Project Air Quality, Hazardous Materials, Land Use, Noise and Vibration, Public Health, Worker Safety and Fire Protection, Soil and Water  2 page(s)		CEC/Docket Unit	Kimberly Nalette
266978	11/3/2025	Department of Conservation's comments on the Corby BESS Project Comments - Department of Conservation's comments on the Corby BESS Project Department of Conservation's comments on the Corby		Renee Longman, Project manager	California Energy Commission



Visit Docket 24-OPT-05 for free 24/7 access to project documents

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-05>



Verbal and Written Comments





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Add Comment

Fields denoted by an asterisk (*) are required.

Select a Proceeding *

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You will need to select a proceeding before continuing

For any questions regarding e-commenting, please send an e-mail to e-CommentingHelp@energy.ca.gov, or call 800-822-6228 or 916-654-4489.

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<https://www.energy.ca.gov/events>

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/ECommentSelectProceeding.aspx>



Tribal Consultation

The CEC invites consultation in this and other opt-in proceedings with California Native American tribes.

Contact: William E. Larson, Senior Environmental Planner (Cultural Resources),
William.Larson@energy.ca.gov, (279) 250-8824



Thank You

Email

publicadvisor@energy.ca.gov

Phone

(916) 269-9595

Online

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/about/divisions-and-offices/office-public-advisor>



Government Comment

California Native American tribes

Government Agencies

Elected Officials



Public Comment



Public Comment

Instruction

- 2 minutes or less per person
- 1 representative per organization

Zoom App/Online

- Click “raise hand”

Telephone

- Press *9 to raise hand
- Press *6 to mute and unmute

When called upon

- CEC staff will open your line
- Unmute, spell name and state affiliation, if any

2-MINUTE TIMER



BREAK

Please return at 5:15 pm

AGENDA

- Welcome
- CEC Staff Presentation
- Applicant Presentation
- CEC Staff Presentation
- CEC Presentation
 - Public participation and California Native American tribal consultation opportunities
- Government Comments
 - California Native American tribes
 - Government Agencies
 - Elected Officials
- Break
- Public Comment
- Next Steps
- Closing Comments
- Adjourn



Comments Due

November 19, 2025, on the Notice of Preparation and Scope and Content of the EIR

Methods to Submit

1. Submit e-comments to project's docket, accessible at:
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Ecomment/Ecomment.aspx?docketnumber=24-OPT-05>
2. Email comments to: docket@energy.ca.gov*
**Please include "24-OPT-05 and Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project NOP Comments" in subject line*
3. Send via U.S. mail, public comments postmarked by November 19, 2025, to:
Re: Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project
California Energy Commission
715 P Street, MS 40
Sacramento, CA 95814

Docket Log

Docket: 24-OPT-05

Project Title: Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project

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Include: ☒ Documents ☒ Comments ☒ Transcripts

↓ TN #	Docketed Date	Document Title
266688	10/20/2025	Gareth Gonzales Comments - corby energy storage system project Land Use 1 page(s)
266687	10/20/2025	Karla P Comments - No Battery Storage 1 page(s)
266663	10/20/2025	Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project 17 page(s)



Next Steps

Activity	Timeframe
Close Public Comment Period on the Notice of Preparation	November 19, 2025
Publish Staff Assessment**	March 2026

**This deadline is subject to any substantial changes made to the proposed project or certain other events occurring after an application is deemed complete.



Thank You!

Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

STEPSiting@energy.ca.gov