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Comment Received From: Jenna Jaiswal
Submitted On: 11/18/2025
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Opposition to the Proposed Battery Energy Storage Facilities – Public Safety, Health Risks, and Community Impact

To the Honorable Mayor, City Councilmembers, and Planning Department of the City of Vacaville,

I am submitting this statement to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed installation of large-scale lithium battery energy storage facilities in Vacaville.

Although I personally live in a suburban neighborhood and do not own livestock, many residents within our city do. Vacaville is home to families, schools, and long-standing agricultural properties. The placement of a high-risk industrial energy facility within or near our community introduces hazards that will affect all of us—regardless of where we live.

My concerns center on three major issues: fire danger, health impacts, and ongoing noise.

Lithium battery storage facilities are known to carry the risk of thermal runaway, which can lead to fires that burn uncontrollably and release toxic gases such as hydrogen fluoride. These events, while not frequent, are extremely difficult to manage and pose serious risks to both human health and animal life. For a city that already faces seasonal wildfire threats and large-scale evacuations, adding another high-risk ignition and chemical hazard is deeply alarming.

I am also concerned about the long-term health implications these facilities may pose, especially in the event of a malfunction, fire, or chemical release. Suburban neighborhoods like mine are not designed to coexist with industrial facilities that could expose residents to dangerous smoke, air pollutants, or emergency evacuation situations.

In addition, the constant noise generated by cooling systems, transformers, and HVAC equipment is incompatible with the character of our community. Vacaville residents value peace, safety, and quality of life. Many neighborhoods—mine included—would be impacted by the nonstop humming and mechanical noise associated with these installations.

Given these concerns, I respectfully urge the City to reconsider moving forward with this project. At the very least, I ask that thorough independent risk assessments, transparent community outreach, and the exploration of safer, non-lithium alternatives be required before any approvals are made.

Vacaville deserves solutions that protect our residents'™ health, safety, and well-being"not projects that introduce new and unnecessary dangers into our neighborhoods.

Thank you for your time, careful consideration, and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,
Jenna Jaiswal