

DOCKETED

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Coalition for Clean Air Comment on Prairie Song Reliability Project

Additional submitted attachment is included below.



February 13, 2026

Ms. Lisa Worrall
Project Manager
California Energy Commission
715 P Street, MS-40
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Prairie Song Reliability Project, LLC, Battery Electric Storage System Facility
(Docket No. 25-OPT-02) - SUPPORT**

Dear Ms. Worrall:

The Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) supports California Energy Commission (CEC) approval of the Prairie Song Reliability Project, LLC, the 1,150 megawatt (MW)/9,200 MW-hour battery electric storage system (BESS) proposed to be developed in the community of Acton in unincorporated Los Angeles County.

Our mission is to protect public health, improve air quality, and prevent climate change. Much of our focus is on the reduction of diesel exhaust from heavy-duty trucks, locomotives, ships, and off-road equipment operating in California. Exposure to diesel exhaust causes a wide variety of adverse public health impacts, from headaches, fatigue, nausea, and increased coughing to cardiopulmonary deaths and lung cancer. Diesel exhaust contains more than 40 separate cancer-causing organic chemicals. It disproportionately impacts children, the elderly, and California's low-income communities of color. The Air Resources Board estimates that exposure to diesel exhaust results in 570 to 890 premature deaths per year in California. Reducing diesel exhaust helps us achieve our mission. It improves public health. It improves air quality. It reduces black carbon emissions, which helps prevent climate change. Battery-electric technology in trucks, locomotives, and other mobile sources of air pollution represents a viable alternative to diesel combustion.

The source of the electrons used in batteries to power electric motors that replace diesel engines matters. It is important that those electrons come from renewable sources of energy, such as solar, wind, or geothermal facilities. While the cost of solar energy continues to drop and California increasingly relies upon it to meet its renewable energy portfolio goals, daily solar energy production peaks at mid-day, which fails to line up with peak demand occurring in

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the late afternoon and early evening. Battery electric storage systems make renewable energy available when we need it the most. The Prairie Song Reliability Project will be an important addition to our BESS infrastructure and help us reach our goal of eliminating diesel exhaust in California.

This project has encountered opposition from local residents. We urge CEC and the project developer to listen to and address community concerns. We understand that the facility will incorporate the latest safety improvements and technologies, including the use of battery cells less prone to fire, improved thermal management, advanced container designs, and monitoring and operational practices more protective than those used in the past. We also support and appreciate the commitment to use skilled and trained workers, which provides assurances that the facility will be constructed by professionals who do the job right and take pride in their work.

We encourage CEC to support the project proponent negotiating a community benefits agreement with community leaders and organizations to demonstrate their commitment to being a good neighbor. Such an agreement could address community concerns and secure local support for the project.

CCA thanks CEC for considering our request for approval of the Prairie Song Reliability Project. Thank you for your clean energy leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph K. Lyou". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "L".

Joseph K. Lyou, Ph.D.
President & CEO

Via E-Comment Portal