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*Comment Received From: Erin Bowman
Submitted On: 2/19/2026
Docket Number: 26-OPT-01*

Subject Opposition to the Proposed Vaca Dixon power center project

Dear California Energy Commission,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed Lithium-Ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in the city of Vacaville. As a resident of Vacaville, I believe the potential risks to public safety, environmental health, and quality of life far outweigh any benefits of this facility.

My opposition is based on the following critical concerns:

Unacceptable Safety Risks: The risk of "thermal runaway" in large-scale lithium-ion systems is a severe hazard. These fires are notorious for being difficult to control, spreading quickly, and releasing toxic gases like hydrogen fluoride into the air, creating a severe public health hazard for residents in Vacaville.

Inadequate Emergency Response Capability: Our local fire department is not equipped, nor properly trained to handle a large-scale chemical fire of this magnitude. Allowing this facility places an unfair burden on first responders and risks the safety of our community.

Environmental and Water Safety: The project's proximity to the north bay aquaduct poses a high risk of contamination from toxic fire residue and runoff.

Impact on Neighborhood Quality of Life: The continuous, 24/7 industrial noise from cooling fans will negatively impact the surrounding residential area. Not to mention the hospital that is only miles from the proposed location.

A project with these potential risks does not belong in a residential area, especially this close to a hospital. I urge the board to prioritize the safety and well-being of its citizens in Vacaville and reject this application.

Sincerely,

Erin & Kevin Bowman
638 Fruitvale Rd Vacaville