

DOCKETED

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How

My name is Don Laird and I have been a resident of Acton since April 1988. We moved up here from Santa Clarita to pursue a dream. We were two US Postal Letter Carriers, who in the American tradition, left a safe and secure life to establish our dream on 2.5 acres of land in Acton. Over the past 38 years that dream has flourished. We are currently retired and enjoying the fruits of a life-long labors.

Our future appeared to be secured until we were notified a proposed Prairie Song Reliability Project (a Lithium Battery Storage facility) was going to be built in Acton. For the first time in 38 years, I am concerned about my future in Acton.

As discussed last night at the Scooping Meeting in Acton, there were various obvious reasons and fears concerning this facility. It wasn't till I got home and replayed the night in my head, it became apparent to me what I missed.

On February 1, 2026, I received, via mail, a notice from the County of Los Angeles Fire Department, informing me of the ANNUAL DEFENSIBLE SPACE CLEARANCE NOTICE 2026. The notice further informed me that Assembly Bill 3074 has been updated to include that all combustible vegetation shall be removed within 50 feet of any structure in extra hazard areas (which Acton has been designated). For our area we must clear, trim and remove combustible vegetation at a maximum of 200 feet. After 37 years of living in my house, to achieve this goal, it will cost me an estimated \$10,000 or more in removal fees.

All this cost and effort is for naught if a Lithium-Ion Storage facility is built. When a fire starts, and there were a reported 80 Lithium Battery fires in 2025, the inferno will wipe out Acton despite my efforts to comply with a Defensible Space Ordinance.

So, I have to ask, how can the same State that order me to spend thousands of dollars for Defensible Space and then decide to build the largest Lithium Storage Battery facility in the United States in that same area? Please explain the logic.

Thank you
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