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With Gratitude from the Residents of Acton

Commissioner Gallardo and CEC staff,
On behalf of the residents of Acton I wanted to thank the CEC for planning and hosting the Scoping Meeting for our community. Our residents felt that you listened to their concerns and that the Commission will be thorough and fair in this application process for the Prairie Song Reliability Project.

We also were grateful to have the opportunity to hear directly from Coval Infrastructure as there has been no prior outreach to our community before this meeting other than trying to seek Community Benefit agreements with some of our local community groups and school district. To me, that is not the first line of proper community engagement and not a transparent approach. This is just another reason we are tremendously grateful for the transparency the CEC process provides.

This is the second Battery Energy Storage System project that Acton has had to stand up against. A third BESS was introduced to us by the developer last summer and there are currently at least 3 more in the CAISO Cluster 15 queue that also have intentions of interconnecting at the Vincent transmission substation via both 230kV and 500kV lines. While we have no way of knowing exactly where these other projects wish to site, we know that they too will be seeking to site in our community as we hear reports of more A-1 and A-2 land being purchased by outside LLCs.

What happens with the Prairie Song will set a precedent for the siting of lithium-based storage projects proposed in proximity to communities- especially rural communities- in our state.

Thank you for your careful consideration of all aspects and impacts of this enormous project.
Ruthie Brock