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*Comment Received From: Denise Sarracino
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RBBR Prairie Song Comment

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

My name is Denise Sarracino. My husband, Marc Sarracino and I, have lived here for 5 years. We moved here from LA to start a therapy ranch using sanctuary horses, raising chickens and keeping bees. We are Ravens Broken Branch Ranch, or RBBR for short, and we own approximately 5 acres off of Red Rover Mine Road and are dependent on well water.

Our first concern is health and safety. Top of the list is fire safety. The current technology of these systems is that here ARE known health and safety risks of Lithium-ion batteries, especially when they are on fire. The fact is that these storage systems have been associated with toxic fires that firefighters are unable to fight safely. This community will suffer great harm if this huge storage system is allowed to be built in our community and a fire breaks out. A fire would be an environmental disaster for us, our neighbors, animals and wildlife.

We currently have 3 horses that will require trailering during an evacuation; not to mention removal of the chickens and bees. Importantly, there is high potential for toxic exposure during a battery fire to both the air and well water that will likely last long after the fire is eventually extinguished. In our understanding, that these lithium battery fires are notoriously hard to put out. It is not clear to us, if we were evacuated under such circumstances, if and when we would be able to return to our homesteads or use our well water.

Furthermore, our entire community will be affected by a large BESS fire in terms of water contamination and/or depletion, environmental impacts including soil disturbances that may release Valley Fever spores. There is no telling if the land will be reclaimable after one of these fires. This risk here is more than just a potential risk because of recent fire at similar, but smaller, facilities. For people, animals, including wildlife, the risk of great health harm is real.

The building of one of the largest, if not the largest BESS in the US, in our community will certainly reduce the value of all of our properties. The entire town of Acton, is subject to a high wildfire risk because we are located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Currently, the only fire insurance available to most citizens here is through the California Fair Plan. For our ranch the annual premium averages \$15,000 a year. There is no telling how high the premiums will go with the building of this BESS. It is clear that the current fire premiums are dragging down property values in our community. When we moved here we did not appreciate how much the cost of fire insurance would add to our monthly payments and that was when interest rates were below 3%. It has been a struggle and any increase in fire premiums will surely be detrimental.

Additionally, we have significant concerns regarding the character of our rural community being industrialized. We moved here precisely for the agricultural zoning and the beautiful setting. How is it possible that this A1 and A2 land can be used for such an industrial purpose without any clear benefit to the community? Today, when folks drive down the 14,

they see a beautiful community nestled in the foothills of the San Gabriel mountains. With the Prairie Song Bess build, our community will look and feel like an industrial zone. We all know that industrialization begets more industrialization. A mile long BESS is precisely what we do not want, or value, in our town.

Lastly, these concerns are in addition to the impact of the construction of this project for our whole community. The trucks, noise and disturbances to environmentally sensitive areas is going to be immense. And for what? Will this community benefit at all for housing over 2000 - 20 foot long containers and substation - on close to 100 acres of agricultural land? Probably not. This project is a zero sum loss for our community, our health and our future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Deniseann C. Sarracino
Ravens Broken Branch Ranch
4630 Fairlane Street, Acton CA 93510
818.434.3270
denise@ravensbrokenbranchranch.com