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*Comment Received From: Thomas May*  
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*Docket Number: 26-OPT-02*

## **Oppose the proposed lithium BESS siting at 90 Minto Road**

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to oppose New Leaf Energy's proposed lithium BESS siting at 90 Minto Road in Watsonville. This location is adjacent to a dense low-income community. The BESS primarily serves Santa Cruz while putting the environmental burden on the low-income Mexican-American community. There are better technologies available (e.g. BESS that use sodium metal as the cation that do not require water cooling systems and have longer lifespans) and alternate locations. Additionally, the proposed site is adjacent to a sensitive wetlands habitat and sits on valuable agricultural land protected by a local ordinance (Measure J).

thank you,  
Tom May