

DOCKETED

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Much more than aesthetic disruption

BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Docket No. 24-OPT-05

Project: Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project

Subject: Formal Community Response and Public Comment on the Staff Assessment

I. Introduction: Rejecting the Premise of "Acceptable Devaluation"

This formal comment is submitted on behalf of the residents, agricultural operators, and community stakeholders of Vacaville and Solano County. While the California Energy Commission (CEC) Staff Assessment meticulously ticks the boxes of administrative compliance, it fundamentally mischaracterizes the profound structural, economic, and safety threats this project poses to our region.

We strongly reject the core premise of the Staff Assessment: that the only "true negative" of the Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is a localized aesthetic disruption. Reducing the permanent industrialization of prime agricultural land, the systematic bypassing of local democracy, and the imposition of severe logistical constraints on first responders to a mere matter of "scenic quality" is a profound error in judgment.

The community refuses to accept the systematic devaluation of our safety and heritage. There are technical flaws, infrastructure deficits, and regulatory contradictions, the structural kinks in the armor of this assessment, that demand the denial of a Certificate and the rejection of a Statement of Overriding Considerations.