

DOCKETED

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Supplemental Information â€“ Corby Energy Project Sire Selection Needs to Be Revisited

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Supplemental Information – Corby Energy Project Site Selection Needs to Be Revisited

I would like to correct and amend my recent comments on the Corby Energy Project entitled “Corby Energy Project Site Selection Needs to Be Revisited”. In the third paragraph, I referred to the “Morro Bay debacle” when I meant to refer to the “Moss Landing debacle”. I apologize to the Commission for any confusion it may have caused.

I am a member of *Citizens for Battery Transparency* and *Citizens for Safe Energy Storage*. I have 40 years of experience in the energy and environmental consulting business including conducting site selection studies for large energy facilities

I would like to take this opportunity to offer supplemental information regarding the proposed, but now defunct, Morro Bay BESS project, that I believe is relevant to the proposed Corby project. The residents and City Council of Morro Bay have been opposing an attempt by Vistra to build a 600 MW BESS near, believe it or not, the downtown Embarcadero in Morro Bay, a very busy summer tourist destination. I have been collaborating with and supporting the residents opposing the siting of this project in Morro Bay.

Vistra, a large publicly traded utility company, bought land including a shuttered power plant in Morro Bay many years ago near the Embarcadero. As you know, Vistra owned the BESS facility at Moss Landing that created a major environmental and public health disaster in mid-January 2025. To put this in financial perspective, Vistra stock lost \$12 billion in market cap after this disaster. That's \$12,000,000,000 with a B and consistent with the definition of 'debacle'. There is no official estimate of the cost assigned by regulators or courts for the environmental and public health damages from the Vistra battery storage fire at Moss Landing. Vistra did, however, write down \$400 million. Cleanup and remediation costs are being funded by Vistra under U.S. EPA oversight, with total long-term operational and legal costs yet to be finalized. In the aftermath of this disaster, Vistra decided to withdraw its permit application and EIR submittal and abandon the project.

The Commission should take notice of what has occurred at Moss Landing and what could have potentially happened in the City of Morro Bay. The proposed Corby Energy Project could potentially be an accident, like Moss Landing, just waiting to happen. Although the alternative site at Lambie is much preferred, it still represents a real risk despite the fact it is zoned for industrial development.

Until these BESS projects change from lithium to sodium or some much safer technology, they should ideally be sited in remote areas and co-located with wind and/or solar facilities. The Edwards Sanborn facility is a good example. The CEC should be acutely aware of the potential consequences of a utility scale accident of which there have been many and varied throughout

the world according to multiple news sources and tracked by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI).

Finally, we need to respect the views and opinions of the citizens of Vacaville who are well aware of the Moss Landing debacle. The Commission also needs to allow local regulatory bodies like the Vacaville City Council and the Solano County Board of Supervisors *Keep Vacaville Safe*.

I appreciate the Commission's attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Joseph Petrillo