

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	26-OPT-02
Project Title:	Seahawk Battery Energy Storage System
TN #:	272248
Document Title:	Margaret-Ann Schott Comments - BESS, 90 Minto Road, Watsonville, California
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Margaret-Ann Schott
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	8/29/2026 1:07:49 PM
Docketed Date:	8/31/2026

Comment Received From: Margaret-Ann Schott
Submitted On: 8/29/2026
Docket Number: 26-OPT-02

BESS, 90 Minto Road, Watsonville, California

Please consider the following in your evaluation this application.

This project would allow a massive corporation to develop a battery energy storage system facility after they tear out yet ANOTHER apple orchard. We are losing protected agricultural land in this county (and this state) at an alarming rate. The citizens of Santa Cruz County voted for Measure J protections many years ago. This intent should be honored.

This project would essentially destroy College Lake, a naturally occurring part of the Watsonville wetlands and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. This lake is also a part of the Pacific Flyway for migratory birds and supports ecotourism for the county.

The proposed facility poses totally unacceptable wildfire, pollution and (24/7) noise in a peaceful, fragile ecosystem. The Doppler Effect will magnify the noise levels to a source of constant stress for residents and wildlife.

This facility is proposed to be developed at the end of an extremely narrow road (think emergency vehicle access). As it is, PG&E has issues bringing in their own construction/utility vehicles. Access and egress for residents, in case of any emergency, would be tragic.

This facility is proposed to be developed within (literally) a stone's throw of densely populated homes. My home is sited .02 miles from the proposed project.

There are known indigenous burial sites within the area.

This facility is proposed to be adjacent to the county's evacuation center (Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds) and the newest county regional park.

This facility is likely to experience thermal runaway and the resulting wildfire(s). These fires can't be extinguished with water.

Think Moss Landing. They may use a different technology, but the net effect is the same. Loss of protected agricultural land (Measure J). Loss of wildlife and fragile ecosystems. Loss of peace. Loss of sense of safety. Loss of property values and our ability to insure our homes.

This is being shoved down our collective throats by PG&E, Invenergy, (a huge energy company), the state and our county. This is not green energy, it is greed energy.

Thank you,

Margaret-Ann Schott
Resident, Diamond Estates
Interlaken, California