

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	24-OPT-05
Project Title:	Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project
TN #:	272252
Document Title:	Debra Reuter Comments - Please oppose the Vaca-Dixon Power Center Bess (Middle River Power) Application
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Debra Reuter
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	8/30/2026 7:49:06 PM
Docketed Date:	8/31/2026

Comment Received From: Debra Reuter
Submitted On: 8/30/2026
Docket Number: 24-OPT-05

Please oppose the Vaca-Dixon Power Center Bess (Middle River Power) Application

see attached

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

California Energy Commission

Project Title: Corby Battery Storage System Project Docket Number: 24-OPT-05

Re: Opposition to the Proposed Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project (24-OPT-05)

Dear Commissioners,

As a resident of Vacaville, California, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed siting of the Corby Energy Storage System Project in Vacaville, on land currently owned by Corby Energy Storage LLC. I am respectfully asking the California Energy Commission to deny this project based on the following concerns:

1. **Public Safety Risks:** The facility's proximity to residential areas and nearby Kaiser Permanente, a level 2 trauma center, raises public safety concerns about the impact of fires, explosions, or toxic fume release from lithium-ion battery fires, which are difficult to extinguish and can release dangerous chemicals. There are safer areas and safer technologies that avoid thermal runaway caused by Lithium-ion batteries according to the [Journal of Power Sources](#), [Volume 670](#), 1 April 2026, 239428. In addition, the journal addresses the primary safety concerns for Lithium-ion batteries, which should not be ignored:

The primary safety concern for Li-ion batteries is Thermal Runaway, a rapid, self-sustaining exothermic reaction that can lead to catastrophic failure. Abusive conditions initiate this process in a cell [\[55,56\]](#). These triggers disrupt the internal stability, leading to cascading exothermic decomposition reactions. The initial heat generation increases temperature, which accelerates the subsequent reactions, creating a positive feedback loop. If the heat generated exceeds the heat dissipated, the cell temperature increases uncontrollably, resulting in thermal runaway. The released energy can cause the cell to vent flammable or explosive gases, catch fire, and, in some cases, explode [\[13\]](#).

2. **Agricultural and Environmental Impacts:** Building the facility on prime agricultural land in Solano County would result in the permanent loss of a valuable resource and negatively affect nearby farming operations. There is a risk of contamination from fires to irrigation canals and residential well water located nearby.

3. **Transportation Impacts:** The project location near Interstate 80 poses a significant risk for closures and disruptions to transportation routes in the event of an emergency, which could have economic impact to the regional corridor.
4. **Strain on Community Resources:** A fire at the proposed facility may heavily strain local emergency services and may place unsustainable demands on local water resources. Additionally, costs may be passed on to taxpayers for special equipment, emergency training, and post-fire environmental remediation.
5. **Lack of Local Control and Community Benefit:** Solano County has an active moratorium on battery energy storage projects while developing regulations. The project use of the AB205's "Opt-In" program is intended to circumvent local control. Additionally, NextEra has entered into a PPA with an out-of-area energy provider, eliminating energy discounts for local residents and only adding risks. What happens when the system ages out? Who is responsible for the clean-up?

The CEC should deny the Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project permit, despite its proximity to the Vaca-Dixon Substation. Please deny this project and any other additional lithium ion BESS proposed for Solano County. This is due to significant public safety risks, adverse agricultural and environmental impacts on prime Solano County farmland, potential transportation disruption, a strain on community resources, negligible community benefits, and the developer's attempt to circumvent local government oversight. Prioritizing the health, safety, environment, and agricultural heritage of Solano County, along with respecting local and community voices, must outweigh any financial incentives or cost-saving measures for the developer.

Sincerely,

Debra Reuter

debireuter@gmail.com

408-348-5669