

DOCKETED

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Past BESS Failures Are a Warning Corby Must Not Put Residents at Risk

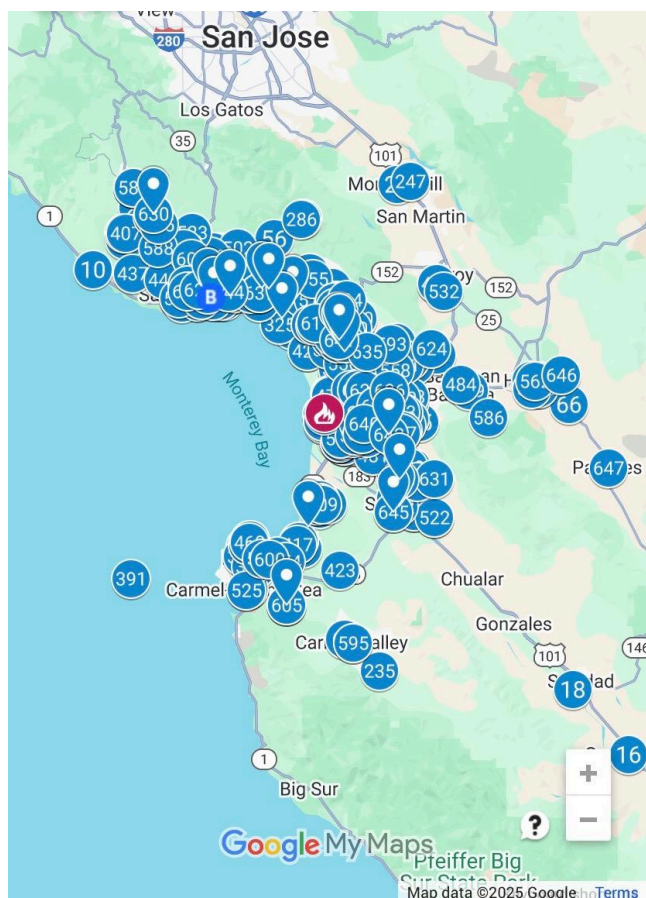
Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Danny Zambrano, and I firmly oppose the Corby BESS Project. My concern is based on real-world evidence, not assumptions or reassurance statements. We have already seen large-scale BESS failures in California, including the 2025 Moss Landing fire and the 2024 thermal runaway event at Otay Mesa both facilities were originally promoted as safe, reliable, and state-of-the-art. Their failures prove that initial safety claims do not guarantee long-term operational safety.

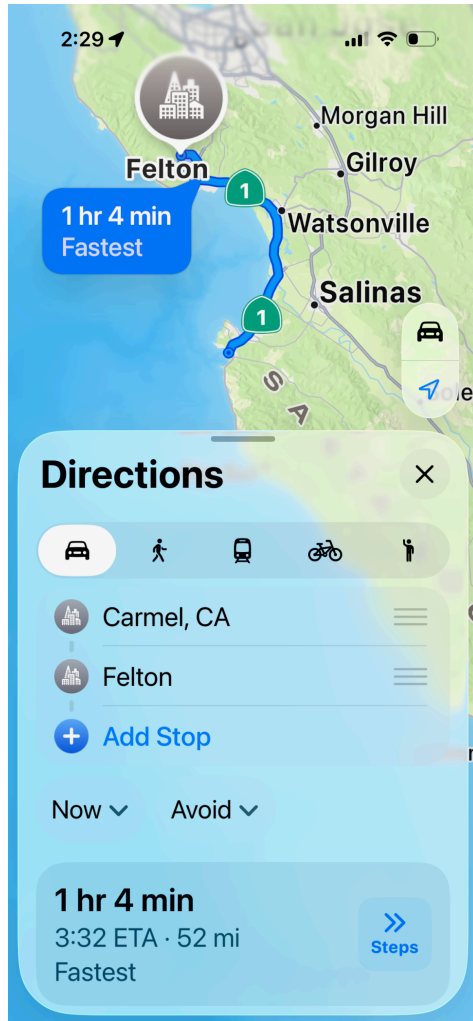
Even though Corby proposes a newer outdoor technology model, these systems do not have decades of proven incident-free operational history, and newer does not mean risk-free. Outdoor BESS systems have already caught fire at other sites, and no one can promise that this project will not experience the same catastrophic failures.

It is documented that residents near Moss Landing within 52 miles experienced symptoms from the lithium battery fire that took place in January 2025.



This map identifies households who participated in a citizen lead survey to disclose symptoms that were believed to have resulted from the fire. Severe health impacts

reported by residents, such as respiratory distress, nosebleeds, and metallic tastes. Additionally, Significant economic harm and lost revenues for local businesses and fisheries due to mandatory closures and lingering environmental concerns were reported.



There is now multiple lawsuits pending against Vistra, LG and PG&E because of this fire.



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MOSS LANDING BATTERY PLANT FIRE



OVERVIEW



Singleton Schreiber is honored to announce renowned Consumer Advocate, Erin Brockovich, has joined our fight in seeking justice for the victims of the Moss Landing Battery Fire.





UPDATED 7/9/2026

Vistra Battery Fire at Moss Landing Power Plant

Helping Monterey County
Residents Seek
Compensation After the
Vistra Facility Fire

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Questions for CEC:

1. Given that citizen survey evidence from the Moss Landing BESS fire revealed acute health impacts including severe respiratory distress, nosebleeds, and metallic tastes occurring up to 52 miles away, what specific plume dispersion model (e.g., AERMOD) was used in the DEIR to analyze multi-day toxic outgassing? What was the maximum geographic distance modeled for acute health impacts?

2. Does the DEIR's Health Risk Assessment evaluate the inhalation risks of aerosolized heavy metals (e.g., nickel, cobalt, manganese, lithium) and combustion byproducts (hydrofluoric acid and hydrogen cyanide) released during a multi-day thermal runaway event? If not, how can the DEIR conclude that impacts to nearby residents, sensitive receptors, and outdoor agricultural workers are 'less than significant'?

3. What specific acute toxicity exposure thresholds were used to determine safe buffer distances between the battery containers and nearby homes and farmland? Does the health assessment account for vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and farmworkers exercising strenuous physical activity outdoors?"

4.Does the EIR evaluate the potential economic impacts resulting from mandatory shelter-in-place orders, agricultural harvest halts, or road closures caused by an uncontained thermal runaway event? What mitigation measures are required to compensate neighboring farmers and businesses for forced operational shutdowns?

5.What specific technical or fire safety standard was used to determine the adequacy of the setback distance between the BESS yard and adjacent residential boundaries and active agricultural operations, and does this distance guarantee protection against toxic smoke plumes during an uncontained thermal event?"

I'm sure when the Vistra Moss Landing Facility was built the residents were told it was perfectly safe and nothing like the January 2025 fire would happen. The core issue is uncertainty. If the safest, most advanced BESS sites in California have already failed, there is no basis to assume this one will not. This is especially concerning when placed near homes, farmland, and existing families.

This technology is changing quickly- now Moss Landing 300 is considered "outdated." However, there's a real problem, none of these facilities are being updated or upgraded when the technology improves. The Corby Project is no different. Our community is supposed to live with this system for 30 years knowing that there could (most likely) be a fire within its operation when in a few years, something safer will be available.

Questions:

1.Given that utility-scale lithium-ion battery technology evolves rapidly leaving older generations (such as Moss Landing 300) considered outdated within just a few years what specific condition of certification or legal mechanism requires the applicant to upgrade or retrofit the Corby facility as safer, less volatile storage technologies emerge over its 30-year operational life?

2.If safer thermal-management, cell-chemistry, or enclosure technologies become industry standard during the 30-year lifecycle, will the CEC mandate retrofits, or will this facility be allowed to operate for three decades using aging, higher-risk technology next to residential homes and agricultural operations?

3.If individual battery containers experience cell degradation or minor thermal events over time, does the project permit allow the developer to replace failed units with newer technology configurations without triggering a formal CEQA re-evaluation or supplemental environmental review?

4.How does the environmental analysis account for the cumulative thermal stress on lithium-ion cells, HVAC cooling infrastructure, and liquid-chilling systems during local

summer heatwaves over a 30-year span, and what is the modeled failure threshold for the cooling systems?

Please answer these questions along with the most important question-

Who is responsible for damages when there is a thermal runaway event?

Can you personally guarantee that a fire won't occur and cause health effects to the nearby community ? If the answer is no, then this is the WRONG location.

We must follow the precautionary siting principle, just as was done in the early days of nuclear energy: until long-term safety is proven, do not place high-risk emerging technology next to communities.

I respectfully ask the CEC to deny or relocate the Corby BESS Project to a properly zoned industrial location, not next to residents. Public safety must come first.

Thank you,

Danny Zambrano - Concerned Vacaville Resident