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Comment Received From: Deanna Cole
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Summary of Signed Letters of Opposition

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

To: California Energy Commission

Re: CEC Docket No. 24-OPT-05 — Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project

Subject: Summary of Community Opposition to the Proposed Corby BESS Project

Dear California Energy Commission Commissioners and Staff:

I am writing to formally summarize the public opposition reflected in the comments and correspondence submitted regarding the proposed Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in Vacaville.

To date, I have uploaded **2,120 letters of opposition** to the project for consideration in the CEC's review of this application. I believe the volume and consistency of this correspondence are important indicators of the level of concern within the surrounding community and should be given meaningful consideration in evaluating the project.

While there have been a handful of letters expressing support for the project, much of that support appears to come from local labor organizations that understandably have an interest in the construction employment and economic opportunities the project could provide. Those interests are legitimate, but they should be considered alongside the much broader body of correspondence submitted by residents who would live with the project's impacts for decades.

The opposition to Corby is notable because **it crosses virtually every traditional community boundary**.

Residents from neighborhoods throughout Vacaville have expressed opposition. The concerns come from people of different ages, backgrounds, occupations, economic circumstances, and political perspectives. This is not an issue that can reasonably be characterized as opposition from a particular neighborhood, demographic group, political constituency, or small collection of individuals.

Instead, the record demonstrates a broad and remarkably unified community concern regarding this particular proposal.

Importantly, **the majority of residents expressing opposition are not opposed to battery energy storage itself**. Many recognize that energy storage may have an important role to play in California's electric grid and in the transition to a more reliable and diversified energy system.

The distinction being made by many residents is much more specific:

We are not necessarily opposed to energy storage. We are opposed to putting this particular project, using this particular technology and configuration, at this particular location.

That distinction matters.

Community members have raised concerns about the suitability of the proposed Corby site, the characteristics and potential impacts of the proposed battery technology, fire and emergency-response considerations, proximity to homes and other sensitive uses, transmission infrastructure, environmental and land-use impacts, and whether alternative locations and configurations could provide the desired grid benefits with fewer impacts to surrounding residents.

The sheer number of opposition letters should therefore not be viewed simply as a tally. Taken together, these letters demonstrate a consistent message from the community: **there is substantial and geographically widespread opposition to the Corby proposal as currently designed and sited.**

The Commission's responsibility is not simply to determine whether California needs additional energy storage. It is also to determine whether **this project, in this location, with this technology and configuration, represents an appropriate way to meet that need.**

I respectfully ask the Commission to carefully consider the 2,120 letters of opposition as part of the evidentiary record and to recognize the breadth of the community concerns they represent.

The people submitting these comments are not asking that California abandon energy storage. They are asking that the Commission distinguish between support for the general concept of energy storage and support for the **Corby BESS project specifically at it's proposed location.**

There is a significant difference between the two.

The record before the Commission demonstrates that many Vacaville residents believe there are better, safer, and more appropriate ways to achieve California's energy-storage objectives without placing this particular project and its associated impacts in this location.

Thank you for your consideration of the community's concerns and for giving the submitted public comments the careful attention they deserve.

Respectfully,

Deanna Cole
Vacaville, California
CEC Docket No. 24-OPT-05
Corby BESS Project