

| <b>DOCKETED</b>         |                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Docket Number:</b>   | 24-OPT-05                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Project Title:</b>   | Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project                                                                                                             |
| <b>TN #:</b>            | 272633                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Document Title:</b>  | Byran Goetze Comments - Formal Opposition to Corby BESS Serious Errors and Unresolved Toxic Air, Wildfire, Extreme Heat, and Firefighting Water Risks i |
| <b>Description:</b>     | N/A                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Filer:</b>           | System                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Organization:</b>    | Byran Goetze                                                                                                                                            |
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*Comment Received From: Byran Goetze*  
*Submitted On: 9/13/2026*  
*Docket Number: 24-OPT-05*

**Formal Opposition to Corby BESS Serious Errors and Unresolved  
Toxic Air, Wildfire, Extreme Heat, and Firefighting Water Risks i**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

September 12, 2026

To: California Energy Commission

Email: [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov) / [STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov](mailto:STEPsiting@energy.ca.gov)

To the California Energy Commission,

I am writing to express my opposition to approving the Corby Battery Energy Storage System project. After looking over the Staff Assessment, there are several common sense issues and safety risks that just don't add up. I'm asking the Commission to take a serious look at these problems before moving forward.

### **Toxic Air Exposures Are Being Ignored**

The report's own air modeling shows that if a thermal runaway event happens, toxic Nitrogen Dioxide NO<sub>2</sub> levels would shoot past safe limits at 12 nearby locations. At five of those locations, including a home right on Kilkenny Road, the fumes reach up to nearly 3 times the safe acute exposure limit (AEGL-1). The report even shows a multi-chemical risk index that covers six nearby homes, extending almost half a mile out. Yet, the report somehow brushes this off as "less than significant" just because they hope an accident won't happen very often. Hoping an accident is rare doesn't make the toxic smoke any safer if it actually happens.

### **Pretending Fire Risks Don't Exist in Our Area**

Section 5.7 of the report claims there is "no history of wildfires near the project site." That is completely flat-out wrong. Anyone who lives around here knows about our fire history, and Table 5.7-3 in the very same document lists the massive 2020 Hennessey Fire right there on the page which burned over 300,000 acres just 4.25 miles away! You can't evaluate the safety of a battery facility if you're ignoring a major 300,000-acre wildfire that burned right down the road.

### **Vacaville Summer Heat vs. Battery Thermal Limits**

The proposed LG battery units specify that internal cell breakdown and off-gassing can be triggered as temperatures approach 120F. In the staff assessment Biological Resources, 5.2-2 (pg 218 of 1,403) inaccurately reports "Annual temperatures of 36.7 degrees Fahrenheit (F) to

95.2°F, with the coolest temperatures in January and the warmer temperatures in July.( WRCC 2026)”. This is WRONG-Vacaville routinely experiences extreme summer heat waves with ambient outdoor temperatures exceeding 100F. When ambient temperatures soar, outdoor metal enclosures act like ovens, equipment temperatures would be significantly higher. Relying on continuous active HVAC cooling in ambient Vacaville heat creates a single point of failure: if local power fails during a heat wave, these battery enclosures can rapidly reach critical thermal thresholds and begin off-gassing toxic fumes.

### **Massive Scale of Individual Enclosures (LG DC Link 5.1)**

The proposed project relies on 30 battery LG DC Link 5.1 enclosures. Each individual container weighs roughly 70,000 to 80,000 pounds (35 to 40 tons). If just one single container catches fire or goes into thermal runaway, emergency responders are not dealing with a small localized fire, they are dealing with tens of thousands of pounds of densely packed lithium-ion cells burning simultaneously. A single enclosure fire would vent enormous quantities of toxic gases, heavy metals, and particulate matter into the surrounding neighborhood. How can the CEC say this is a “less than significant “ impact to the environment?

### **Running Out of Firefighting Water in 20 Minutes**

The plans for this site call for a 24,000-gallon water tank. But the Dixon Fire District says they need a water flow of 1,200 gallons per minute to fight a fire at this site. Basic math tells you that 24,000 gallons divided by 1,200 gallons per minute means the site's entire water supply will be completely dry in just 20 minutes. We all know battery fires can burn or smolder for hours or days. Leaving firefighters with only 20 minutes of water on site puts our whole community and emergency responders at serious risk. This is common sense. Rather than solving this issue, the report says to push this off until after approval. Ludicrous!

I attended the public meeting on September 1st and listened to numerous speakers point out serious errors, oversight, and missing analyses in your report. It is deeply disappointing to see the CEC push forward with a document that contains such glaring factual and technical mistakes. Our community deserves a fair, rigorous, and accurate review that prioritizes local public safety over rushing an flawed assessment. Please correct all the errors so we- the public can weight in on the **REAL** risk the project poses to our environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Bryan Goetze