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Vistra 300 cleanup in Moss Landing reignites once again

A major fire event occurred at the Vistra 300 in Moss Landing in January 2025. Since that incident there have been two reigniting, the most recent being Sept. 18th shortly after the announcement of the final phase of cleanup.

Lithium-ion batteries are known for reigniting and this event, 20 months after the original fire, proves the threat to communities continues even after the fire is considered to be suppressed. Batteries remain energized with “stranded energy” and can reignite during the tedious removal process.

Please put battery storage which utilizes any type of lithium-based battery technology out in remote locations where communities are not put at risk.

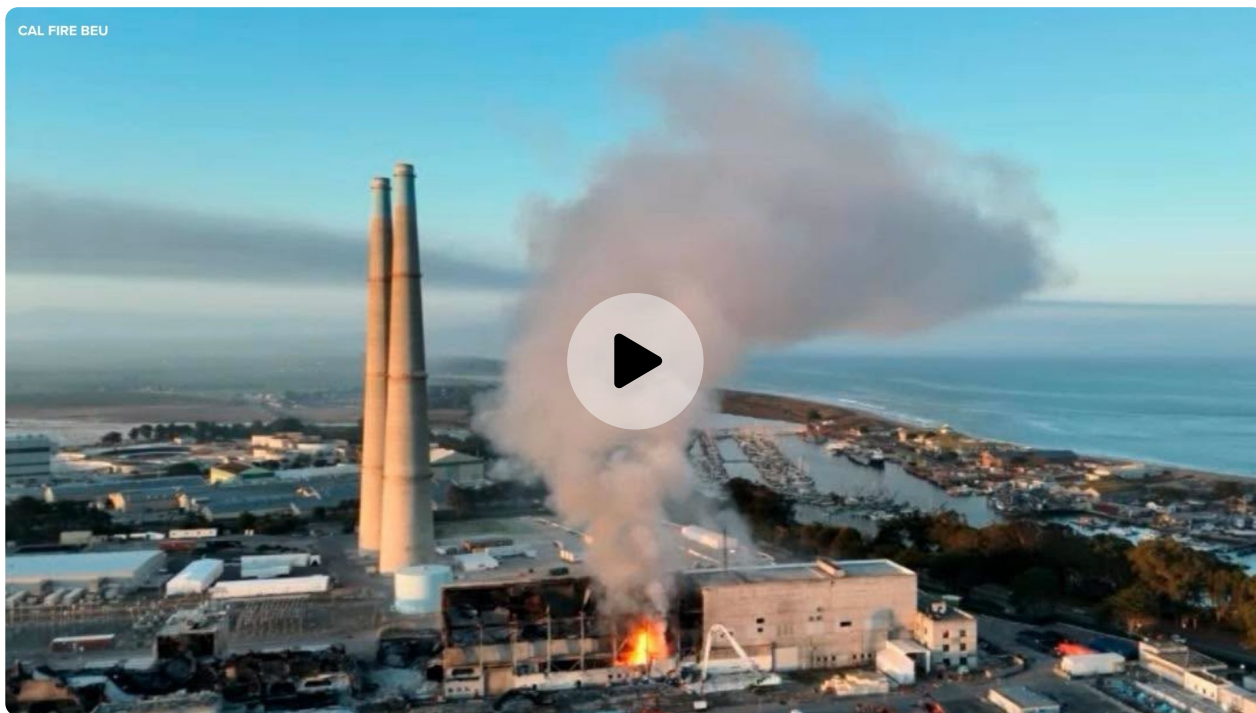
Additional submitted attachment is included below.

POWER PLANT

Shelter-in-place order lifted after fire at Moss Landing Power Plant in Monterey Co.: Officials


By [Dustin Dorsey](#)

Friday, September 18, 2026 5:30PM



Monterey County officials said that a fire reported Friday morning at the Moss Landing Power Plant is expected to burn itself out over the next day.

CAL FIRE BEU

MOSS LANDING, Calif. (KGO) -- Monterey County officials said that a fire reported Friday morning at the Moss Landing Power Plant that prompted people nearby to shelter in place is expected to burn itself out over the next 24 hours.

The shelter-in-place order has since been lifted, officials said in a virtual news conference.

Authorities initially responded shortly after 6:15 a.m. to the fire, and county officials said it was burning within a structure that had significant damage from a Vistra battery energy storage facility fire in [January 2025](#) and involves batteries previously damaged in that fire, which forced the temporary evacuation of more than a thousand residents.



CAL FIRE BEU



The fire occurred as cleanup work continued following the January 2025 blaze, which damaged the same building.

"The fire is alarming for the community," Monterey County Supervisor Glenn Church said. "Bringing it once again to the forefront, that safety must be paramount in every way we deal with battery energy storage systems."

The county in a statement said Friday's fire "is not comparable to the January 2025 fire in terms of its scale or complexity," but had still prompted shelter-in-place orders and warnings in the surrounding area.

MORE: [Bay Area research team identifies toxic metals tied to Moss Landing battery storage facility fire](#)

The Monterey County Sheriff's Office earlier Friday issued shelter-in-place orders for an area within a third of a mile of the facility at 7301 State Highway 1. The North Monterey County Unified School District also kept students and staff indoors at Elkhorn and Castroville elementary schools, North Monterey County Middle School, and North Monterey County High School.

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There is a road closure on Dolan Road between Highway 1 and Via Tanques Road. Highway 1 remains open, but traffic is impacted as a result of the fire, and drivers are advised to avoid the area, according to the county.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has air monitors working in the area, and fire crews are also using drones to assess conditions, county officials said. No injuries have been reported.

Workers were evacuated and nearby neighborhoods were ordered to shelter in place while crews worked to contain the fire.

"We're working with the facility and investigators to see what could have caused the fire. But as we know right now, it is contained to the building of origin, which was already previously damaged by fire," said Josh Silveira, public information officer for CAL FIRE Monterey County.

The cause of the January 2025 fire remains under investigation. Cleanup efforts have focused on removing damaged batteries and clearing the building.



MORE: [Deal reached to clear burned batteries from Moss Landing plant months after fire](#)

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Ron George, manager of the Moss Landing Vistra plant, said between 1,000 and 2,000 energized batteries remained at the facility.

"Those batteries remain energized from when they were charged before the original fire. And until we are able to completely remediate the site, we will not get to a point where there is zero risk of a future flare up," George said.

The San Jose State Moss Landing Marine Laboratory, located across from the facility, previously found that the 2025 fire had a significant impact on the local environment. Battery fragments and heavy metals were discovered in the nearby Elkhorn Slough. Longterm effects have yet to be determined for the latest fire.

Local officials said the current health threat from Friday's fire appeared to be low.



MORE: [Another fire at Moss Landing battery facility raises health and air quality concerns](#)

"From what we can see, we have air monitors at the facility, so we're always looking at that air quality. We're currently not seeing anything that's very

alarming," Silveira said.

There were no active flames or smoke for much of the day.

Church said the latest incident underscores concerns about battery storage safety.

"This incident really highlights, underscores just how volatile lithium batteries really are. And while we need reliable and efficient battery energy storage systems, the key is that they really must be safe at all times -- whether in an operation or in a cleanup, as in this case," Church said.

Officials said cleanup efforts at the facility will continue once the area is deemed safe. They also warned that additional flare-ups remain possible until remediation work is complete.

Bay City News contributed to this report.



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