

DOCKETED

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*Comment Received From: Gerald Duff, Board of Directors Acton Firewise Inc.
Submitted On: 9/26/2026
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Opposition to the Prairie Song Reliability Project

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

September 26, 2026

Commissioners and CEC Staff

California Energy Commission

Opposition to the Prairie Song Reliability Project

Applicant: Prairie Song Reliability Project, LLC

Docket No. 25-OPT-02

Dear Commissioners and CEC Staff:

I serve on the board of Acton Firewise Inc. I am writing to oppose certification of the Prairie Song Reliability Project in Acton. Our community already faces wildfire danger. Adding a large battery facility in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone creates another possible emergency for the same residents, roads, and responders.

In Acton, the hard part of evacuation is reaching a safe road in time. Many neighborhood roads are dirt, some are narrow, and traffic can bottleneck on the routes out. A resident who does not drive cannot simply join that line of cars. Someone must have a vehicle, be available, and be able to reach that resident while everyone else is leaving.

That is especially serious here. The Census estimates that 22.8% of Acton residents are 65 or older, well above the national figure of 18.0%, and counts an estimated 319 veterans. Many seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities need assistance to travel. Some have no car, no nearby family, or no money for temporary lodging. They cannot be treated as an afterthought in an emergency response plan.

Acton residents are doing their part. Our latest count is 382 homes involved in Firewise USA communities or neighborhoods working toward recognition, representing approximately 1,000 residents. Neighbors are clearing vegetation, protecting homes, and organizing together. We are trying to reduce the hazards already around us. Prairie Song would add a potential source of fire and evacuation demand to that work.

Please deny certification of the project at the proposed Acton location. I ask you to consider the people who would still be waiting for a ride when traffic is already moving out of town.

Please place this letter in the public record for Docket No. 25-OPT-02.

Sincerely,

Gerald Duff
Board of Directors
Acton Firewise Inc.
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