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*Comment Received From: Sarah Erickson
Submitted On: 11/19/2024
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NextEra Project Objection

I am writing on behalf of our family and our community in Solano County, specifically Vacaville, CA.

There are safer alternatives to BESS. Iron Flow technology is safer and available. With a 25 year efficacy range.

When a BESS storage unit reaches 20 years, who is to clean it up, how and what effect does it have. There are story after story of BESS and even house fires from lithium-ion batteries that are FACT. Not hypothetical or proposed. They are dangerous!

Cities change their lights to less bright wattage to protect wildlife and let birds rest and yet a constant humming is deemed acceptable?

Compensation to the families is not enough. Procedures to fight fires is a step, but there is no way to guard from fumes and what about embers. Vacaville and CA was devastated by the LNU fires in 2020. We know how quickly a fire can spread and fumes travel especially with the wind we get through Solano County.

Please reject BESS in Solano County. We are bot opposed to energy storage, we simply want better and safer technology. WHICH IS ALREADY AVAILABLE.

Vacaville City Council and residents were in agreement to stop Menard Energy from building BESS in our city. They reviewed studies(independent and otherwise, public comments and the company's statements and voted no. Please go and search their agendas, the minutes and recordings. Please hear the cries of the little guys. Again, not against energy storage, but against toxic and polluting energy storage.

From manufacturer ESS Inc.'s website:

Lithium-ion vs. Iron flow

"Lithium-ion systems are the most widely deployed battery energy storage technology today. But, the technology has limitations: sensitivity to extreme temperatures, risk of fire, limitations on cycling and eventual need for augmentation are all driving interest in alternatives.

ESS products use a safe and non-toxic chemistry made of earth-abundant materials. Our iron flow batteries pose minimal risk to installers, communities and the environment, have the lowest lifecycle carbon footprint of any storage technology on the market, and a 25-year design life.

Our recent certification to the UL 1973 standard follows certification of our battery modules to UL 9540A last year, which affirms that ESS batteries pose no risk of thermal runaway. Together, these two important UL certifications are a testament to ESS's commitment to safe, durable energy storage solutions."

Please consider the residents, wildlife, health and future issues when you consider the energy storage in our County and State.

This area where NextEra would like to build is also near water and agriculture. Farms, ranches, orchards, vineyards, groves that feed America. Please do not let it be tainted by BESS facilities when it is completely unnecessary. Be mindful for the good of the people and the country.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sarah Erickson
Vacaville resident and concerned Californian