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Comment Received From: Derek Johnson

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NextEra's Poor Planning Should Not be Granted

As a resident of Solano County, specifically Vacaville, I ask that you deny NextEra/Corby's application. As many will no doubt express, we are not against sustainable energy development nor energy resiliency. We are, however, in favor of practical common-sense development that poses the least amount of risk to our residents, businesses, and medical centers. NextEra's Corby development will be near a significant and vital transportation and commerce artery - Interstate 80. It will be in close proximity to not only residents and businesses, but also a major senior housing community and one of two trauma centers for Solano County. While NextEra may speak of addressing California's energy hunger, "community benefits" to our area, and even dangling ongoing economic benefits, a closer look at NextEra reveals it's about their bottom line, not public safety or benefit.

NextEra's CEC filing is all about a looming contract deadline, arrogance, and their shareholder value. They bought prime agricultural land knowing full well Solano's current land use and rules didn't account for this kind of development. They entered into a contract with a San Francisco energy firm CleanPowerSF prior to any kind of approval with a startup date of 2025. Because of buying the land and inking a deal, they NextEra thought they could bring on the consultants and the cash into our community and we would bend over backwards to accommodate them. But our citizens had questions. Our citizens had concerns. Our Board of Supervisors heard the questions and the concerns, but didn't say "no" to NextEra. Instead, they passed a moratorium to allow the County to develop comprehensive, sensible land use policies to accommodate both BESS development and our citizens.

For NextEra, however, local process is problematic. They couldn't buy off Solano County. A new year is on the horizon - a year they made promises to CleanPowerSF. Their shareholders will want answers.

We recognize, with a PG&E substation in the vicinity, NextEra and others will look to property in the vicinity to develop BESS. Yet we do not want to be surrounded by haphazard battery storage sites. Solano County is trying to do the right thing for all parties. Approving NextEra/Corby's application will send a signal to other developers that Solano County residents' or their elected officials' concerns are irrelevant. NextEra created their own mess. Please don't condone it.

Thank you.