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Comment Received From: Christine Heise
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Opposition to Permit request for battery storage facility

Dear Commissioners,

I am opposed to the Next Era BESS battery storage proposal. Our community has been discussing and researching BESS batteries systems as we have been inundated with companies wanting to put their systems in our community. The local community has been speaking to our local officials and they have listened. Both the City of Vacaville and Solano County have placed moratoriums on lithium-ion BESS while they do their research and can write ordinances to protect community safety.

Community research has discovered that these systems are not safe. They are susceptible to thermal runaway and there have been many instances at other facilities. When these have caught fire, they have had to shut down areas within a few miles of the fire, have people shelter inside with all ventilation systems turned off. The toxins given off are absorbed through the skin and affect the brain and the heart.

These facilities, along with the proposed Next Era proposal, are planned for being built on prime agriculture land, which will be lost forever. It is also very close to neighborhoods and a key hospital. If shutdowns happened, it would shut down I-80 and heavily impact more than just the local community.

There is no benefit for the local community, who has everything to risk. The energy is not staying local, it is being sold to San Francisco and the shareholders are the beneficiaries. Our property values will tank. Our community would have to pay for the first responders. Next Era about our community or it's safety.

Please do not approve this project and allow the local governments have control of local decisions.

Thank you,
Local citizen