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*Comment Received From: Laurie Malicki
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NO BATTERY STORAGE IN VACAVILLE!

To Whom It May Concern,

As a lifelong resident of Vacaville and a proud grandparent, I feel compelled to express my deep concern about the proposed Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in our area. For decades, I've cherished the peaceful, natural beauty of this community, and I cannot stand by while an unnecessary and potentially dangerous development threatens the serenity and safety of our town.

Vacaville has always been a place where families thrive, where children play freely, and where nature remains undisturbed. This way of life is what drew many of us here, and it's what I've proudly passed down to my children and grandchildren. The BESS proposal undermines everything we hold dear about our community.

These massive battery facilities pose significant risks. Fires, explosions, and toxic chemical leaks from these systems are not theoretical—they've happened elsewhere, with devastating consequences. Our quiet, rural neighborhoods are not equipped to handle emergencies of this magnitude, and the introduction of such hazards is deeply unsettling for those of us who value safety and peace of mind.

Moreover, these systems bring noise, traffic, and industrial activity into areas that should remain calm and undisturbed. We have spent years fighting to preserve Vacaville's unique charm, only to see it threatened by unwanted "progress" that benefits corporations, not the people who actually live here.

There are also long-term environmental concerns to consider. The materials used in these batteries—lithium, cobalt, and others—are toxic and difficult to dispose of safely. Should leaks occur or the facility face damage, our soil, water, and air could be irreparably harmed. Vacaville is known for its natural beauty and agricultural heritage—why would we risk damaging the very land that sustains us?

As someone who has seen this town grow and change over the years, I know that not all progress is good progress. We should focus on projects that enhance our quality of life, not disrupt it. There are safer, cleaner, and less intrusive ways to store energy that don't compromise our health, our environment, or the peaceful character of our town.

I urge our leaders to listen to the voices of those who call Vacaville home and to prioritize the well-being of our community over corporate interests. We have a responsibility to protect what makes this town special for our grandchildren and for generations to come.

Thank you for considering the perspective of those of us who value Vacaville's quiet, natural beauty.

Laurie Malicki