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Comment Received From: Noah Galgan

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## **Opposition to Corby Battery Energy Storage System Project**

Dear California Energy Commission,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Corby Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in unincorporated Solano County. While I recognize the need for renewable energy solutions, this project poses significant risks to our community, environment, and local economy that cannot be ignored.

**Key Concerns:** 

Safety Risks:

The proposed facility's close proximity to the Vaca-Dixon PG&E substation increases the risk of cascading failures in the event of an accident. A fire or malfunction at the BESS could compromise critical energy infrastructure, with wide-reaching impacts on grid reliability.

Lithium-ion battery fires are nearly impossible to extinguish, releasing toxic smoke that endangers the health of nearby residents, livestock, and agricultural operations.

Water runoff from such fires could contaminate local waterways, including Solano Irrigation District canals critical for farming.

The project increases the burden on emergency responders, requiring specialized training and equipment, which could strain county resources.

Environmental and Economic Impacts:

The facility would permanently remove 40 acres of prime agricultural land, disrupting Solano County's farming heritage and economy.

Toxic contamination from potential accidents could render the site a brownfield, unsuitable for future farming or other uses.

The increased fire risk from the facility could lead to higher home insurance premiums for nearby residents, creating additional financial burdens on the community. Community Impact:

The project is incompatible with local and county plans, which prioritize agriculture and biotechnology industries.

Nearby residents face declines in property values, noise pollution, and health risks,

further destabilizing the community.

Precedent for Future Projects:

Approval of this project will open the door for more large-scale lithium-ion battery facilities, dramatically altering the rural character of Vacaville and surrounding areas.

This project bypasses local government oversight, leaving our community vulnerable to the decisions of a state process that does not adequately address local concerns. I urge the California Energy Commission to deny the permit for this project and prioritize solutions that align with local plans and protect our residents, environment, and economy.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely, Noah Galgan Vacaville, Solano County Unincorporated