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*Comment Received From: Russell Crooks  
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## **Against BESS In Vacaville Ca**

Hello.

I am resident of Vacaville, CA and I am opposed to the pending agenda item for the Corby/Next Era project under consideration for the reasons set forth below:

1. BESS systems are uniquely unstable, in that if the batteries catch fire, which occurs to a much greater frequency than other hazardous materials, the toxic fumes which are released causes mandatory evacuations of the population. Toxic gases carry and will end up in our water, the crops that are grown nearby, etc.
2. Once a fire breaks out it can take days to put the fire out. Escondido had a fire earlier this year that burned for 5 days. Where does all of that toxic water go? Into our water treatment system.
3. In the Journal of Loss Prevention in the Process Industries, in an article titled, "Lithium ion battery energy storage systems (BESS) hazards", the authors state, "According to recent lessons learned on BESS fire prevention and mitigation published by the Electrical Power Research Institute (EPRI) in June 2021, over 30 large-scale BESS globally experienced failures that resulted in destructive fires over the past four years (Long, 2021). These events are also tracked in the publicly accessible BESS Failure Event Database (EPRI, 2022). Most events had in common that the lithium ion batteries installed in the BESS were somehow driven to vent battery gas and transition to thermal runaway, which is a process that releases large amounts of energy. Thermal runaway is strongly associated with exothermic chemical reactions. Under a variety of scenarios (i.e., short circuit), the stored chemical energy is converted to thermal energy. The typical consequence is cell rupture and the release of large amounts of flammable and potentially toxic gases, which can lead to fire and explosion."

I strongly urge you to deny this application, and do your own research on these systems. Further I urge you to not be a rubber stamp for any of these projects, but to categorically deny approval and send the approval process back to the local communities, where this belongs.

Thank you for your consideration.