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## **Thatâ€™s Ancient Technology**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*

We've seen the ribbon-cutting ceremonies, smiling faces proclaiming, 'Clean Energy,' 'Guaranteed Safety,' "A Green Future.'

Considering the recent Moss Landing fire, at its launch promises of a sustainable future filled the air. We were assured, unequivocally, that:

*"The project will not have a significant cumulative effect upon the environment...it will not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly."*<sup>1</sup>

These weren't mere suggestions; they were firm declarations, assurances to the surrounding community. Yet, what has now happened since those opening ceremonies?

Weeks of uncontrolled fire, plumes of toxic smoke, evacuations, medical emergencies, and heavy metals in the surrounding soil. And when the flames finally subsided, what was the industry's response?

'Oh, that's outdated technology.'

This isn't an isolated incident. With each successive fire, a familiar pattern emerges. The proponents, those with a substantial financial interest in the proliferation of these lithium battery systems, dismiss the failures as merely relics of a bygone era.

As Scott Murtishaw, executive director of the industry's lobbying group, California Energy Storage Alliance, so readily put it after the recent Escondido, California fire, a system only a few years old, ***"That's ancient technology."***<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION Duke Energy Moss Landing LLC (Vistra Energy Corp) January 28, 2019

<sup>2</sup> Voice of San Diego, Sacramento Report: Lawmakers Want to Cut Red Tape to Ramp up Battery Storage November 22, 2024

But I ask: if it's 'ancient technology' today, why was it cutting-edge, state-of-the-art, and safe just yesterday? Why were these same systems, now deemed obsolete, the centerpiece solution to our energy woes?

The truth is, the technology isn't 'ancient' when it's being installed, when it's generating profits, garnering public support. It becomes 'ancient' when it fails, when it endangers lives, and when it reveals the inherent risks conveniently overlooked in the pursuit of profit and progress.

Photovoltaic systems have been reliably installed for over 50 years. Lithium battery technology continues to finish its engineering and development in the field. In the field next to our homes, schools, businesses, and memory care facilities.

The fires at Moss Landing, Escondido, Otay Mesa, and other facilities are not anomalies; they are warnings. They are stark reminders that the rush to implement dangerous technologies can have devastating consequences.

We cannot afford to sacrifice the safety of our communities on the altar of expediency and profiteering, while all along singing pretty hymns of green energy.