

From: [wadens25](#)
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: Fire at Moss Landing and proposed new storage facilities
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2025 7:46:19 AM

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For mental and physical health, please do not consider any more battery storage facilities in the county before MUCH better assurances can be made that there will NOT be any more possibility of raging fires. I grow our own organic food and spend many wonderful hours in the garden. It is extremely frightening to be told to stay indoors because of possible toxic fumes, and then have to wonder if our backyard food is safe to eat. The proposed installation near Minto Road in Watsonville is right near neighborhoods. Please consider our health, both mental and physical. Thank you.

Rita

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: battery farm
Date: Thursday, January 23, 2025 1:54:15 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 12:22 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: battery farm

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To Santa Cruz County Supervisors;

You are about to vote on weather or not to put a battery farm in the Watsonville.

I for one highly disagree with this proposal for several reasons.

First is the fire in the Moss Landing plant and the toxic cloud it created, and than god for the winds that took it away.

As you all know Watsonville sits in its own little valley. If you were to watch the weather you can see that Watsonville has less, if any wind. What that means is that you would be putting a toxic cloud over the city of Watsonville.

AND IT WOULD STAY THERE FOR HOW LONG NO ONE KNOWS.

The passing of this to take out 16 acres of apple trees for a battery plant is morally wrong and possible criminal.

Daniel R. Murphy

[REDACTED]

Watsonville Ca. 95076

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Battery locations
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 3:12:14 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: kimberly martin harding <kelpgal@mac.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 9:05 PM

To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>

Subject: Battery locations

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I DO NOT WANT BATTERY STORAGE IN MYBACK YARD OR ACROSS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL!!!!!!
Kimberly Martin Harding

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Battery No!
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 2:55:50 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 12:40 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Battery No!

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Please do not approve battery installations until they are safe and not threatening our existence. The technology is not at the point of guaranteed safety.

Elizabeth Williams

[REDACTED]

Watsonville, CA 95076

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy A14 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Battery Plants
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 2:57:22 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve Baldwin [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 3:13 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Battery Plants

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No battery plants in east side Santa Cruz area!!!

S. W. Baldwin

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Battery storage disaster
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 3:17:13 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 1:21 PM
To: Congressman Jimmy Panetta <ca20jpima@mail.house.gov>; Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Justin Cummings <Justin.Cummings@santacruzcountyca.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: Battery storage disaster

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To Whom It may concern:

That the largest battery storage facility in the country was built a stones throw from the Monterey Bay- a Marine Sanctuary and the Elkhorn Slough, another wildlife sanctuary, surrounded by wild life, farm lands, cow pastures, and people is bad enough. That the 4th fire in 5 years and by far the most environmentally catastrophic burned for 3 days straight emitting toxic plumes of carcinogenic smoke and debris is devastating and unacceptable on many levels. The debris landing in our bay and farmlands poisoning our children, food supply and farm animals!

Hearing the EPA spokesperson telling us the air is fine is a lie. Listening to the PR person from Vestra make excuses and telling us they cannot guarantee that this will not happen again with propaganda and lies to try to make us believe them is laughable. That the Coastal Commission was obviously not present to make a statement, did not fight this plant and was not at the press conference shows us that they were complacent with the building of this battery storage facility and are also at fault for its creation given their severe oversight of every inch of our coast and now all we hear are "crickets" from them and our county leaders who are also at fault.

My last point is this, who paid you all off to allow this to be built with another being planned in Watsonville as we speak? YOU promoted this plant voting to support it with subsidies and environmental waivers. You who preach about the environment you swore to protect but ignored. All should be removed from office for your betrayal of our Marine Sanctuary,

the people and our fragile environment that you took an oath to "represent".
What a betrayal. What a disgrace.

J. Hansen
Monterey Bay

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Battery storage plants in Santa Cruz County
Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 5:03:15 PM

From: Jeanne Chaikin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2025 10:29 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountycalifornia.gov>
Subject: Battery storage plants in Santa Cruz County

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This was the fourth fire at the Moss Landing battery storage plant.

These instances are stark reminders of what has been hauntingly equated to the aftermath of the "3 Mile Island" disaster. The potential fallout to the health of human life, our delicate ecosystems, and the incomparable beauty of our county is immeasurable. Yet, it seems our concerns fall on deaf ears, as more battery supply areas are being proposed in Watsonville, Aptos, and Santa Cruz.

The logic is simple: where there is smoke, there is fire. We need no more evidence than the smoke billowing from the Moss Landing facility to understand that this is a significant problem that requires immediate resolution. What's more, our county's status as a global produce supplier adds another layer of concern. The potential contamination of our produce could have far-reaching implications on global food chains.

Therefore, we demand immediate action. We call upon our local representatives and governmental bodies to halt the establishment of additional battery storage facilities in the county. This is about preserving Santa Cruz County, the health of its residents, the integrity of our produce, and the future of our world-renowned ecosystem.

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Do not want a battery plant in our backyard
Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 5:00:30 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Marilyn [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 8:57 AM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Do not want a battery plant in our backyard

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I hope you reconsider this after what happened in Moss Landing. I have lived here all my life and feel this can be put somewhere far from a populated neighborhood, hospital and schools. This is absolutely crazy. Are you serious that you want to live by this? Please please reconsider this.

Marilyn

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jessica Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Make sure grid-scale battery storage sites have battery units OUTDOORS not INDOORS
Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 4:43:19 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2025 10:05 AM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountycalifornia.gov>
Subject: Make sure grid-scale battery storage sites have battery units OUTDOORS not INDOORS

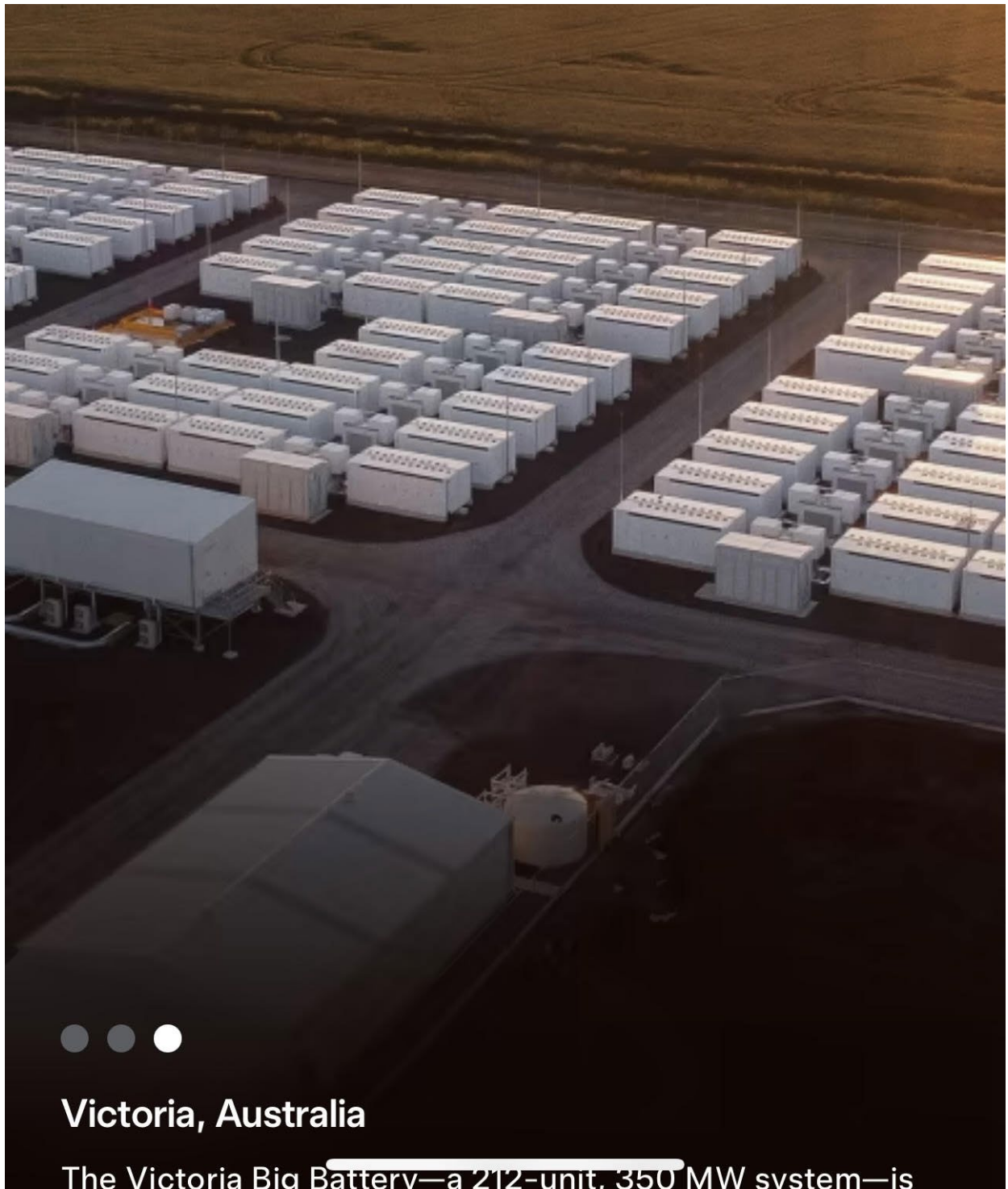
****CAUTION:This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Dear Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors -

Please ensure that any lithium ion-based grid-scale battery storage systems use battery subunits that are outdoors and will vent superheated gases skyward in the event of a fire. The Moss Landing disaster, in which an entire turbine hall full of container-size batteries burned up, was a readily-foreseeable outcome of the flawed installation design. Placing the containers within a reinforced concrete building ensured that when any single unit caught fire, the structure would concentrate superheated gases, causing overheating and thermal runaway of adjacent units and the loss of the entire building.

Literally everyone who reads the news knows that lithium batteries are subject to ignition and thermal runaway if they overheat, that they can randomly overheat due to manufacturing defects that can't always be detected up front, and that often once these fires ignite they often must be allowed to burn themselves out as it's often impossible to extinguish them. Therefore, if you're going to build one of the world's largest grid-scale energy storage systems, you need to ASSUME that a battery WILL overheat and experience thermal runaway and design the system in such a way that the ignition of one battery won't cause any of the others to ignite. You could straightforwardly satisfy that design requirement through some combination of spatial separation of the subunits, physical separation of the subunits by earth, reinforced concrete, or similar, and venting of each subunit to the sky so hot gases will dissipate upward instead of being contained with the other batteries increasing the risk of chain-reaction overheating and thermal runaway.

Here is a photo of a Tesla grid-scale storage implementation. It appears that's exactly the strategy they use: numerous subunits in the open air separated by gaps so a burning unit will mostly heat the sky not the adjacent units.



Victoria, Australia

The Victoria Big Battery—a 212-unit, 350 MW system—is

Yet the below system from Vistra using LG container-size battery subunits was designed in the exact opposite fashion: all the subunits were contained within a closed concrete building so hot gases would be concentrated not vented, maximizing the risk of the any fire spreading to consume the adjacent containers and then the entire building.

Moss Landing: World's biggest battery storage project is now 3GWh capacity

By Andy Colthorpe

August 2, 2023

US & Canada, Americas Grid Scale

Business, Market Analysis, Technology



Owner Vistra Energy has announced the completion of work to expand its Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility in California, the world's largest lithium battery energy storage system (BESS) asset.

It requires no expertise in grid-scale battery systems design to foresee this scenario. I have no such expertise at all. If you've watched one YouTube video of a laptop battery or an EV igniting and one YouTube video of how hot gases behave during a fire inside a structure, you can foresee this scenario.

This appears to have been a failure at every step of the way:

- The solution architects at Vistra Energy who proposed enclosing a grid-scale lithium ion battery storage system within a reinforced-concrete building
- Anyone at LG who reviewed Vistra's integrated solution design from a safety standpoint
- Every county planner and government body that approved this implementation

I strongly support implementation of grid-scale power storage to smooth out power supply-and-demand gaps, reduce the number of power plants needed, and reduce the need for natural gas-based "peaker" plants. But the companies who design, build, and operate these systems will also need to use at least minimal intelligence in their safety design to prevent readily foreseeable disasters like this from occurring, giving the entire industry a bad name, and creating public resistance to future battery system construction. And local permitting authorities will need to have staff who read the news and ask "What if?" instead of just assuming the service provider's design is good and rubber-stamping it.

Please make sure we learn from this needless error by Vistra Energy and the Monterey County Board of Supervisors and don't ever repeat it. Lithium ion-based grid storage batteries must be placed outdoors, not indoors.

Sincerely,

Eric Krock

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Jesseka Rodriguez](#)
Subject: FW: Moss Landing Fire Affects
Date: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 3:16:18 PM

From: Cindy Scott [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 8:05 AM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Moss Landing Fire Affects

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Honorable Supervisors,

I live in south county just outside the Watsonville City limit. Since the plume of toxic smoke from the battery fire was blowing directly our way during most of the worst of the inferno, I would like to know if there are any plans for testing in Santa Cruz county for potential fall-out of heavy metals and chemical toxins?

So far I have only been aware of air quality testing, and not anything done on ground surfaces, like on all of the food crops grown between here and there, for example.

Thank you for your consideration of this important health issue.

Sincerely,

Cindy Scott

Corralitos resident

From: [Keith McHenry](#)
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: Please ban the placement of Lithium-ion Battery Storage Facilities in Santa Cruz County
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2025 7:41:33 PM

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Attention Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors:

I am writing in support of a total ban on the placement of Lithium-ion Battery Storage Facilities in Santa Cruz County and that the county initiate a study on the damage to our community by the world's largest Lithium-ion Battery fire at the Moss Landing Lithium-ion Battery Storage Facility.

Any energy storage facility that can have a fire that can't be put out needs to be discontinued.

Thanks for your attention.

Keith McHenry

 Santa Cruz CA 95061 USA

From: [Paul/Sue Stephens](#)
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Subject: Re: Moss Landing battery fire
Date: Saturday, January 25, 2025 2:15:56 PM

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You must join together with the other elected officials to investigate this very dangerous fire.

Let me touch on two problems.

First: We had never heard about the location of this storage building or what was in the building.

Second: I want to touch on one subject. It is about the food in our area. No one seems to know if the food is safe. What about the people who choose to eat organic food. I doubt it is organic now. What about our milk. How about the animals who produce the milk. They are eating the grass and drinking the water that has probably been contaminated. How about the people who grow their own food because they think it's safer.

Now we hear they want to place another storage building in Watsonville or possibly even here in Santa Cruz.

I don't care if they say another storage building will be much safer. Enough is enough. I say NO!! You must fight against this and keep our citizens healthy and safe

Suzanne Stephens

From: [Karen Asherah](#)
To: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
Cc: lisa@elkhornslough.org
Subject: Test dead seagulls post Moss Landing
Date: Friday, January 24, 2025 7:40:14 AM

CAUTION: This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.

Supervisors,

Please note that seagulls have been found dead after this toxic event. PLEASE have them tested to determine cause of death.

We need to document the effects on wildlife!!

Thank you,

Karen Asherah

Sent from my iPhone