



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
6.		Favor	Aura Vazquez	signalscv.com/2024/10/aura-vasquez-an-energy-solution-for-california/
			Robert Corona	
		Item Total	2	
Grand Total			2	

From: [Ruth Brock](#)
To: [PublicComments](#)
Cc: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Opposition to HUMIDOR LLC Franchise Agreement Ordinance
Date: Monday, October 21, 2024 3:47:41 PM
Attachments: [How safe are lithium iron phosphate batteries – pv magazine International.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please accept these comments in opposition to the adoption of the Hecate Humidor LLC Franchise Agreement Ordinance (Agenda item #53 on 10/8/24) and to the Humidor BESS project approval from 8/1/23.

Thank you,
Ruthie Brock

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I'm writing in opposition to the resolution of intent to adopt the Franchise Agreement ordinance for the Hecate Humidor BESS project in the community of Acton.

The residents of Acton are against this project approval for many reasons:

- 1) The BESS will utilize thousands Lithium-Iron-Phosphate batteries which are a fire risk, difficult to impossible to extinguish, can go into Thermal Runaway and expel large amounts of highly toxic gases that include Hydrogen Fluoride, Hydrogen Chloride, Hydrogen Cyanide, Methane, Ethane, Carbon Dioxide and Carbon Dioxide.
- 2) A failure at this BESS facility could result in soil and groundwater contamination from water runoff used to protect adjacent exposures. The approved Humidor site plan has not provided a design to contain water runoff should there be an incident. The Acton Water Basin basin serves the private wells of many Acton residents and is literally beneath this BESS project and the head waters of the Santa Clara River are adjacent to it.

3) In the event of a fire/failure incident, the State Route 14, Metro Rail and all roads serving this corridor of East Acton will be closed. This residential area has very limited ingress and egress so residents will have difficulty evacuating quickly. Many equine, livestock and other domestic animals also will need to be evacuated. Because of this area having limited escape routes, people may not be able to evacuate in time and may become trapped in close proximity to this dangerous off-gassing.

4) Acton residents will receive none of the benefit of the stored power that will be supporting the grid but must bear all of the fire and health risks and financial burdens of this project.

5) Properties may become devalued and far more difficult if not impossible to sell.

6) Fire insurance, which is already becoming very difficult to obtain may become impossible to obtain. Policy premiums have already doubled and tripled in this area under the CA “Fair Plan” as compared to what residents were previously paying under their now canceled or non-renewed policies. Without fire insurance these residents could lose their homes as all mortgage lenders REQUIRE fire insurance.

7) There is NO NEED for a BESS to be located near the substation to which it will connect. The only benefit is to the developer who will save money on a transmission line that spans a much shorter distance. As far as the function of the BESS, there is no reason to be near the substation. In the case of the Humidor, the developer insists it is necessary in order for them to serve the grid. This is absolutely untrue. If this were true, solar and wind farms with integrated battery storage would not be out

in the remote areas of the desert away from substations. This is all about PROFITS OVER PEOPLE.

8) In San Diego County there have been 3 BESS fires in the past year alone. In Sept. 2023, the Valley Center BESS burned. In May of this year the Gateway BESS in Otay Mesa burned for 11 days. And just on Sept. 5th the BESS owned by and located at San Diego Gas & Electric burned for several days. All three fires resulted in evacuations and shelter in place orders for residents as well as closures of hundreds of businesses, closure of schools and of course road closures. These failure events are extremely disruptive due to the risks of toxic off-gassing to the surrounding areas.

9) Very importantly, the location of the Humidor puts the power grid itself at risk due to being very close to critical 500kV overhead transmission lines that make up the southern terminus of the Pacific AC Intertie. A fire at the Humidor would potentially produce smoke that could cause the 500kV lines to arc and short-circuit. The short-circuiting could melt the insulators on the lines and result in the tripping of the grid system. This tripping can then cause additional tripping as a safety response on other interconnected systems and could result in taking down the grid in many western states. It could take days to weeks and possibly up to \$1B to restore the power following an event like this. This scenario was brought to Acton's attention by two transmission specialists (Large System Operators) with a combined 75+ years experience and we conveyed this information to Congressman Mike Garcia. He has spoken about this poorly sited BESS and the risks to the grid and the residents of Acton from the floor of the House.

[Rep. Mike Garcia Floor Speech for Battery Electric Storage Systems](#)



**Rep. Mike Garcia Floor
Speech for Battery
Electric Storage Systems**

By Congressman Mike Garcia

The people of Acton have been very vocal and have spoken very clearly on their opposition to this project and sadly the County and the Board of Supervisors have thus far completely ignored our concerns. This project could still serve the grid and provide revenue to LA County if it were sited away from residents who are being put in harms way by placing it further out in the open desert.

Alternatively, if the County were to demand that Hecate deploy a SAFE battery technology for this project such as Iron Air or Iron Flow batteries which have no fire or toxicity risk and are capable of longer duration storage, this would mitigate all risks to residents. Recently Sacramento approved a 5 MW project which will utilize long duration energy storage batteries (LDES) that are Iron Flow technology. This project which will provide up to 100 hours of power also received \$30M in grant money from the CEC.

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/news/2023-12/cec-awards-30-million-100-hour-long-duration-energy-storage-project>

The approval for the BESS itself was based on a “similarity determination” which was totally inaccurate. This BESS should never have been declared “similar to an electric distribution system”. Why? Because this Humidor BESS will receive energy over a 230kV AC (Alternating Current) transmission line and convert/step down the energy to 34 DC (Direct Current) power for storage in the batteries.

The BESS will then, when needed, convert or step up the energy back to 230kV AC to transmit power back to the Vincent Substation via the connected transmission line. The substation then steps it down to a lower voltage and sends it out at a lower AC voltage that can be utilized by households and other consumers.

Fact #1—Any voltage over 200 kV is considered “TRANSMISSION” voltage. Humidor receives electricity at 230 kV AC.

Fact #2—The stored DC power CANNOT be utilized by households and other consumers who can only receive AC power, so therefore the BESS cannot “distribute” this power.

Fact #3—“Distribution voltage” is considered 50 kV AC or less, but never DC! The Humidor stores energy at 34 kV DC.

Fact #4—The BESS cannot “distribute” energy that is “transmission” level based on the 230 kV voltage at which it returns power back to the Vincent Substation.

Please consider the significant risks associated with siting this project which will utilize millions of watts of risky Lithium-Iron-Phosphate batteries in a designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone in proximity to residences, animal rescues, equine facilities and kennels.

Lithium-Iron-Phosphate are touted as “safe” by developers as compared to Lithium-ion batteries, but there is information and

studies that contradict this. (See attachment below)

Please do not approve the Franchise Agreement ordinance that would allow the Humidor 400 MW lithium-iron-phosphate BESS to be developed in ACTON.

Thank you,
Ruthie Brock
Acton Takes Action
32 year Acton resident



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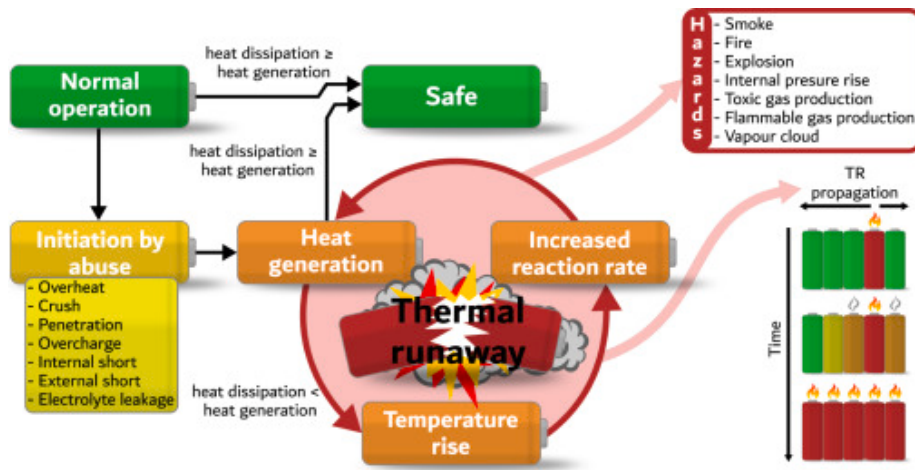
How safe are lithium iron phosphate batteries?

Researchers in the United Kingdom have analyzed lithium-ion battery thermal runaway off-gas and have found that nickel manganese cobalt (NMC) batteries generate larger specific off-gas volumes, while lithium iron phosphate (LFP) batteries are a greater flammability hazard and show greater toxicity, depending on relative state of charge (SOC).

APRIL 10, 2024 **MARIJA MAISCH**

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Thermal runaway from initiation to propagation and resulting hazards

Image: Creative Commons CC BY 4.0

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It is often said that LFP batteries are safer than NMC storage systems, but recent research suggests that this is an overly simplified view.

In the rare event of catastrophic failure, the off-gas from lithium-ion battery [thermal runaway](#) is known to be flammable and toxic, making it a serious safety concern. But while [off-gas](#) generation has been widely investigated, until now there has been no comprehensive review on the topic.

In a new paper, researchers from the [University of Sheffield](#), [Imperial College London](#), and the University of St Andrews in the United Kingdom have conducted a detailed meta-analysis of 60 papers to investigate the most influential battery parameters and the probable off-gas characteristics to determine what kind of battery would be least hazardous.

They have found that while NMC batteries release more gas than LFP, but that LFP batteries are significantly more toxic than NMC ones in absolute terms.

Toxicity varies with state of charge (SOC). Generally, a higher SOC leads to greater specific gas volume generation.

When comparing the previous findings for both chemistries, the researchers found that LFP is more toxic at lower SOC, while NMC is more toxic at higher SOC. Namely, while at higher SOC LFP is typically shown to produce less off-gas than other chemistries, at lower SOC volumes can be comparable between chemistries, but in some cases LFP can generate more.

Prismatic cells also tend to generate larger specific off-gas volumes than offer cell forms.

The composition of off-gas on average is very similar between NMC and LFP cells, but LFP batteries have greater hydrogen content, while NMC batteries have greater carbon monoxide content.

To assess the fire hazard of each chemistry, the researchers calculated and compared the lower flammability limit (LFL) of the off-gasses. They have found that LFL for LFP and NMC are 6.2% and 7.9% (in an inert atmosphere) respectively. Given the LFL and the median off-gas volumes produced, LFP cells breach the LFL in a volume 18% smaller than NMC batteries.

“Hence LFP presents a greater flammability hazard even though they show less occurrence of flames in cell thermal runaway tests,” the researchers said.

They discussed their findings in “[Review of gas emissions from lithium-ion battery thermal runaway failure – Considering toxic and flammable compounds](#),” which was recently published in the *Journal of Energy Storage*.

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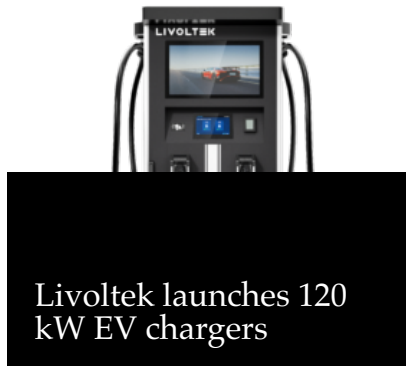
MARIJA MAISCH



Marija has years of experience in a news agency environment and writing for print and online publications. She took over as the editor of pv magazine Australia in 2018 and helped establish its online presence over a two-year period.

[More articles from Marija Maisch](#)

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9 comments

Jon Darian

REPLY

April 11, 2024 at 4:45 am

The headline suggests this article is about how safe the batteries are, when actually it is about their relative toxicities once they are burning. Surely any discussion of their safety would involve the risk of them burning in the first place. Which is more likely to burn?

Kirk Chapman

April 11, 2024 at 7:37 pm

It seems LFP is more likely to burn according to this statement, mainly due to LFP breaching the LFL at lower volumes than NMC:

To assess the fire hazard of each chemistry, the researchers calculated and compared the lower flammability limit (LFL) of the off-gasses. They have found that LFL for LFP and NMC are 6.2% and 7.9% (in an inert atmosphere) respectively. Given the LFL and the median off-gas volumes produced, LFP cells breach the LFL in a volume 18% smaller than NMC batteries.

"Hence LFP presents a greater flammability hazard even though they show less occurrence of flames in cell thermal runaway tests," the researchers said.

Marija Maisch

April 12, 2024 at 12:02 pm

This is correct, thanks for your comment, Kirk.

This paper does not analyze the likelihood of a thermal runaway in different chemistry types but rather the relative risks and considerations in case a cell enters a thermal runaway. As a results of an analysis of TR gas emissions, it concludes that LFP batteries show a tendency for greater flammability (and the more flammable the gas is, the more likely it is to lead to explosions) and toxicity hazards.

Lance

April 11, 2024 at 8:58 am

As per previous comment that's exactly what I thought.... what we need to know is which chemistry is more likely to cause a fire in normal everyday use. And I'm still of thrbmind that NMC present a significant danger which LFP do not.

REPLY

Brian Woodford

April 11, 2024 at 10:42 am

I agree, which one is more likely to catch fire, under what extreme daily use, are we reliant on the electronic safty circuits, which if fail a fire will ensue??

REPLY

Pingback: [Quão seguras são as baterias de fosfato de ferro de lítio? – pv magazine Brasil](#)

Salvatore Sepulveda

April 11, 2024 at 4:03 pm

REPLY

I have six 100AH LiFePO4 Batteries. If I'm not using them, I run them all down to 70% capacity, then store them away. My top number one question is how do I protect the BMS (Battery Management system) in the event of an EMP and how do I know when the BMS has failed before something catastrophic happens? I've purchased an EMP Shield at EMPShield.com, but they're expensive. So, is there a cheaper way to protect the BMS? Let me know.

Ian Tucker

REPLY

April 11, 2024 at 7:03 pm

The key factor is the pyrolysis temperature and for lifepo4 this is over 1100C and far in excess of that achieving a home fire. Nimc is lower and more fires have been reported with this technology.

DAVID ROBERT PACHOLOK

REPLY

April 12, 2024 at 12:22 am

You need what is called a Faraday Cage. Remove the BMS from the battery. Wrap it in aluminum foil completely, folding over the edges. Now a note re BMS systems:

They ALL draw some parasitic current even if only a few microamps. I lost a 1kwh 25.6 volt LFP pack 10 years ago. I didn't realize the BMS started drawing excessive parasitic current.

This was a custom pack I had made for a project, and cost \$500. Pack totally ruined. I disassembled one cell with 0.1 volts remaining. The copper anode was totally corroded, and I could see a coppery color on the cathode.

Very expensive electroplating. So a year ago I built my own pack for \$80 thanks to Battery Hookup in PA. Great prices. My BMS is now connectorized, 2P8S, so 9 pins. Long storage I disconnect the BMS.

To test for parasitic draw charge battery and let it sit for a week or so. Verify that each cell is within 0.01 volt of each other. Using a digital multimeter set to current, break the connection between each wire and battery taps and measure the current. For your 100 ah pack I would like to see all currents below 0.001 Amp, ie 1mA. So at 1 mA you will lose 1 AH in 1000 hours, or 100 AH in 100,000 hours. Each year has 8640 hours, so if each cell has less than 1 mA leakage current, you should be OK for years without having to charge. BUT I would check each cell voltage every 6 months to be sure. If I had done that I would have written off a \$500 battery. Hope this helps

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From: [Alex](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Urgent Opposition to Humidor BESS Project - Acton Community Safety at Risk
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 4:09:15 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am writing to urgently express my strong opposition to the Humidor Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project planned for our community of Acton. While I understand the need for renewable energy solutions, the potential dangers associated with BESS technology, especially in a residential area like ours, cannot be ignored.

Safety must be the top priority. There have been numerous reports of fires, explosions, and other catastrophic incidents involving BESS systems worldwide. These risks pose an unacceptable threat to the health, safety, and well-being of our families and the surrounding environment.

Our community is not an appropriate location for such a hazardous facility, given the high fire danger in this region. The presence of a BESS facility would not only increase the likelihood of fires but could also overwhelm our local emergency response capabilities.

I respectfully urge you to oppose this project and seek alternative locations that do not endanger residential areas like Acton. Our community deserves to be protected from these risks.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Alex Bar

From: [Amanda Buchan](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:51:01 PM
Attachments: [Hecate letter.docx](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1

LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Supervisor Barger,

My name is Amanda Buchan. I own the house at 34410 Angeles Forest Highway, literally across the street from the proposed project. This stone home was built in the 1940's and is part of the Vincent Hill Mining history of the area. I have been working with LA County Building & Safety for the better part of a year to add a 350sf bedroom addition that would attach what is currently a detached bathroom to the main house. The Fire Department has been the big stumbling block for this project, as they are requiring an over-the-top fire sprinkler system that goes above and beyond the required 10-minutes needed to evacuate the house in case of a fire, the purpose being to protect lives.

It is beyond imagining to me that somehow a massive lithium battery storage facility that poses catastrophic danger to the area can be built across the street. There are a multitude of dangers posed by this facility:

This facility is a ticking time bomb, that when it goes off, will cause massive wildfires and loss of homes and property (hopefully not lives) due to the difficulty involved in suppression.

It is located in an area that relies on ground water for the surrounding homes. A fire and the chemicals that would be needed to suppress it would contaminate the ground water for decades to come. I have seen nothing of a plan to remediate that threat.

It is located on a main commercial rail line that moves product across California. Any issues with the facility would disrupt that line, impacting rail service across southern CA. That same railway provides Metrolink service from the Antelope Valley to the Los Angeles Basin. Peoples ability to get to work would be disrupted.

It is located within an 1/8 of a mile from I-14, the only major connector between the Antelope & San Fernando Valleys, as well as a major north/south truck route. Any fire at the facility would have an extreme negative impact on traffic. And the other alternative routes would be impacted also – Angeles Forest Highway would be impassable, Soledad Canyon Rd would be impassable, Sierra Highway would be impassable.

Most homes in this area house livestock. If all the access points are shut down due to a fire, what evacuation plan has been put in place? There isn't one, for people or animals.

When were the environmental studies done? When were the traffic studies done? What kind of extensive disaster mitigation plans have been put in place. They weren't. Why is it that the

State of California can decide to put a project like this in a residential area? Just because we are in the high desert on large parcels does not mean this project is in the middle of nowhere. There are thousands upon thousands of vacant acres that would be more suitable for this type of project that would have minimal impact on lives and infrastructure should the unthinkable happen.

I do understand that the company wants to be able to place the plant in a place that has easily accessible infrastructure and that it is located close to the transmission plant. But the inhabitants of the area should not have to shoulder those potential burdens, especially when we will not even be the ones benefitting from the power produced! We already have had multiple power shut-offs due to limited power supplies, wind events, etc.

And we are not even talking about impacts to property values in the area. As a Certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser who has been working in the Santa Clarita & Antelope Valleys for 30+ years, the negative impact on home values within the impact area is not even calculable at this point. But it stands to reason that anyone willing to risk living in an area that could be high risk for fire, water contamination, etc. is going to be expecting to pay a much-reduced price for a home in that area. Who is going to reimburse the current homeowners from that loss in value? And it is nearly impossible to find homeowner's insurance for fire in the area now, with many people paying upwards of \$12,000/year, who is going to cover the additional cost – if insurance can even be found?

This is an incredibly ill-conceived plan and, given the unpredictability of the stability of lithium batteries in general, the dangers to our community and the additional costs that homeowners will be facing, should NEVER be allowed to be placed here.

Sincerely,

Amanda & Gorden Buchan

A printable word document of this letter is attached.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1

LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Supervisor Barger,

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When were the environmental studies done? When were the traffic studies done? What kind of extensive disaster mitigation plans have been put in place. They weren't. Why is it that the State of California can decide to put a project like this in a residential area? Just because we are in the high desert on large parcels does not mean this project is in the middle of nowhere. There are thousands upon thousands of vacant acres that would be more suitable for this type of project that would have minimal impact on lives and infrastructure should the unthinkable happen.

I do understand that the company wants to be able to place the plant in a place that has easily accessible infrastructure and that it is located close to the transmission plant. But the inhabitants of the area should not have to shoulder those potential burdens, especially when we will not even be the ones benefitting from the power produced! We already have had multiple power shut-offs due to limited power supplies, wind events, etc.

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This is an incredibly ill-conceived plan and, given the unpredictability of the stability of lithium batteries in general, the dangers to our community and the additional costs that homeowners will be facing, should NEVER be allowed to be placed here.

Sincerely,

Amanda & Gordon Buchan

From: [Amy J. Bodek](#)
To: [Jacqueline Ayer](#)
Cc: [Barger, Kathryn](#); [Saraiya, Anish](#); [Kathy Park](#)
Subject: RE: The Humidor BESS capacity is actually 545 MW
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:17:28 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot BESS Approval Notes.PNG](#)
[Screenshot BESS Note 1.PNG](#)

Ms. Ayer –

Thank you for your email. To confirm, Regional Planning approved a project for 400 MW only. We did not and do not approve a project that would be for more than 400 MW.

I have attached a screenshot of the approval notes that were required to be on the site plan as Note 1.

We will ensure that any building or fire permits submitted to the County for review are for the maximum capacity of 400 MW (not 400 batteries).

Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

AMY J. BODEK, AICP (she/her/hers)

DIRECTOR

From: Jacqueline Ayer <sortacton@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:33 PM
To: Amy Bodek <ABodek@planning.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Barger, Kathryn <Kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov>; Saraiya, Anish <ASaraiya@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: The Humidor BESS capacity is actually 545 MW

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Director Bodek;

When the Humidor BESS site plan was approved on August 1, 2024, Regional Planning represented to the public that the capacity of the facility was 400 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 1 below). However, the equipment and facilities that Regional Planning *actually* approved on the site plan is a **545 MW** BESS consisting of 440 battery containers in which each container has a generation capacity of 1.236 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 2 below, and note that 440 containers x 1.236 MW per container = 544.84 MW total). It is not known if Regional Planning was aware that the actual capacity of the equipment that was approved by the site plan was 545 MW rather than the 400 MW represented to the public.

Figure 1:

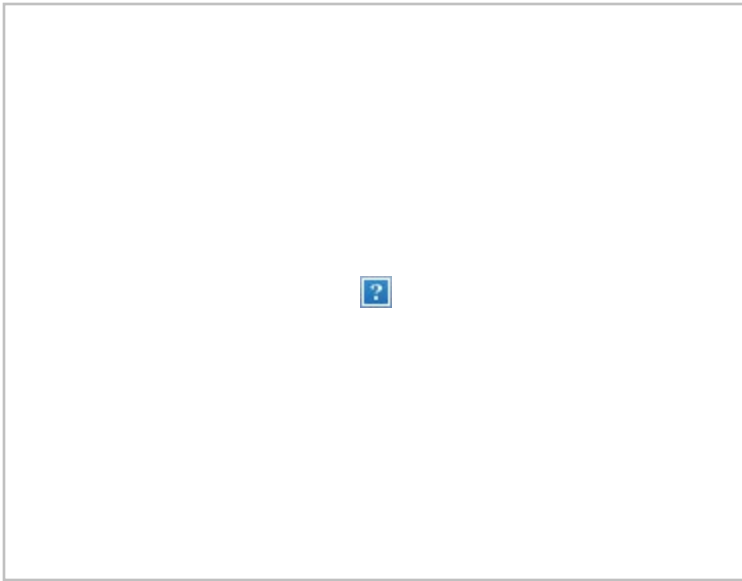
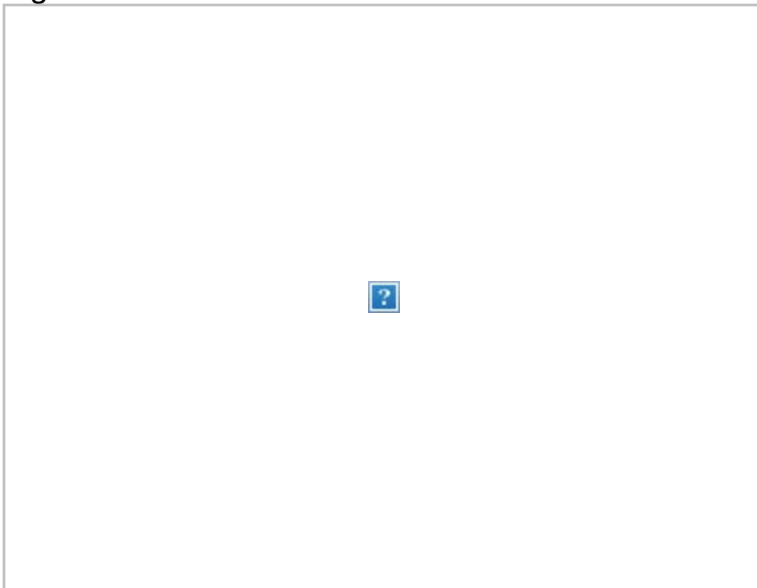


Figure 2:



Hecate has a proven track record of misrepresenting the facts of the Humidor project to County agencies and to the Department of Regional Planning in particular. For instance, Regional Planning approved the original site plan in 2022 based on Hecate's assurance that the project was located entirely on industrially zoned property; the residents of Acton had to go to great lengths to prove to Regional Planning staff that the project was not limited to just industrially zoned property and that it extended into agriculturally zoned land as well. It was only after this significant community effort that Regional Planning rescinded the 2022 approval and informed the Community of Acton that the Humidor BESS would undergo the Conditional Use Permit process; unfortunately, this did not occur.

The new realization that the actual capacity of the approved Humidor BESS project is more than half a gigawatt is the latest in a string of misrepresentations and mischaracterizations that have been uncovered regarding the Humidor Project. More importantly, this proves beyond any doubt that the Humidor Project is nothing like a

distribution substation because the capacity of a distribution substation is typically less than 100 MW (although in some rare instances, they can approach 200 MW). This is because utility planning standards do not accommodate distribution substations with capacities exceeding 500 MW (or even 400 MW) because the risk to load is too great (given that a mishap would result in the loss of electrical service to an unacceptably high number of customers). These material facts conclusively demonstrate that Regional Planning erred in applying "Interpretation 2021-03" to approve the Humidor BESS as a "distribution substation", and I present them to you based on my nearly 20 years of experience in participating in electrical proceedings before the CPUC and the FERC which involved extensive electrical system analyses and expert witness testimony.

Based on these facts, I request that Regional Planning rescind the Humidor BESS approval that was issued on August 1, 2024.

Respectfully submitted;
Jacqueline Ayer, Director
Save Our Rural Town



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

L.A. COUNTY
PLANNING

Permit: RPPL2023000687	Project No.: PRJ2023-001496	EXPIRES: 06-01-2028
Address:		APN: 385604044
Approved by: Anthony Cruz	Zone: A-2-2	Approved on: 08-01-2023

Site Plan Review approved for new battery electric storage system (BESS) pursuant to Subdivision and Zoning Ordinance Interpretation No. 2021-03 - Battery Electric Storage Systems. Subject BESS is wholly located within the M-1 (Light Manufacturing) Zone. Project to comply with development standards set forth in 22.140.200.B (Electric Distribution Substations - Development Standards), including an 8-foot perimeter wall and landscaping. Vegetation removal to be comply with Section 22.302.060.B (Acton Community Standards District - Community Wide Development Standards). Capacity of BESS is 400 megawatts and located on approximately 15 acres.

*Approval does not represent a building permit

*All necessary approvals from other County departments required prior to construction.

NOTES

- 1. EQUIPMENT DEPICTED IS PRELIMINARY ONLY. MAXIMUM NAMEPLATE CAPACITY OF THE BESS IS 400MW.
- 2. BATTERY SYSTEM SIZED PER MANUFACTURER AUGMENTATION RECOMMENDATION OF 43% CELL ADDITION, ALLOWING FULL POWER OUTPUT AT END OF LIFE BASED ON A 20-YEAR LIFESPAN.
- 3. BATTERY SYSTEM SIZED UNDER FOLLOWING ASSUMPTIONS:
4 HOUR RUN TIME AT END OF LIFE.
- 4. RETAINING WALLS REQUIRED AS INDICATED ON DRAWING. EARTHWORK TO REMAIN UNDER 100,000 CY TOTAL.
- 5. LIGHTING WILL COMPLY WITH CHAPTER 22.80 (RURAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING DISTRICT) OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE
- 6. PARCEL M1 ZONING BOUNDARY LOCATION PER L.A. COUNTY GIS.
- 7. SITE IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED PER CURRENT CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE (2022), NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION AGENCY 855 (NFPA-2020), AND LA COUNTY FIRE CODE (2023).
- 8. ALL CONTAINERS ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH UL 9450A.
- 12. ALL ROADS TO BE ALL-WEATHER ACCESS AND CONFORM TO LA COUNTY FIRE CODE (2023) 503 AND 501.4. INTERIOR RADIUS TO BE 19', CENTER RADIUS 45', AND EXTERIOR RADIUS 45'. WIDTH TO BE 26'.
- 13. ALL CONTAINERS TO BE SET BACK FROM LOT LINES A MINIMUM OF 10'.
- 14. PROPOSED LANDSCAPING VEGETATION TO BE COMPLIANT WITH LA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT FUEL MODIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

From: [Brooke Messerly](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: [SUSPECTED SPAM]AGENDA ITEM #13 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Fanchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:59:53 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Good Evening Mrs Barger,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to you regarding the Hecate Grid Humidor Storage facility or BESS that is up for a resolution tomorrow, Agenda Item #13. I like so many, strongly oppose this facility and all the other BESS storage facilities trying to come into Acton. As someone who does believe that we must find alternative energy solutions, I feel that not enough time and energy has been spent on how even one of these facilities will impact our small town. As someone who grew up in Acton, works in Acton, my children go to Acton schools, my family is deeply involved in our beautiful community. My concern above all else is the safety of my family, my friends, animals (domestic and wild). As we have seen in recent news, these storage facilities are catching fire and becoming absolutely dangerous to be in the vicinity of. The proposed location of the Humidor project is near ranches, a train station, Angeles Forest Highway and the 14 freeway. Should just one of these storage containers catch fire, it will cause evacuations, stop the metrolink, close Angeles Forest Highway and the 14 freeway. Not to mention contamination of the groundwater that feeds the wells of nearby ranches. This will have devastating and potentially long lasting effects. I pray that you hear us. That you see us. That you listen to the people of Acton and that you stand with us. We oppose any BESS in our town!

Best Regards,

Brooke Messerly

From: [callierippleeffect](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda 53 please read.
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:19:33 PM
Importance: High

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Good afternoon, I am a resident of acton ca. I have some extreme concerns with this battery substation that's supposed to be built.

In our area we suffer dramatics with major fires every year and extreme heat at times reaching tripple digits.

I am aware of a power battery substation that is supposed to be built in our area.

I am stating it's a bad idea. Not only do the people not want it here we all agree on it. But the planners are trying to put it rt next to an arena where we all have competition and ride our horses. If something happens you'll ne looking at a mass casualty as it's over 100 of us riding there roping cattle.

If something goes wrong not only will it take out half a mountain with that kind of power but it'll start a fire we can't put out at that magnitude. And in an area where population is relevant I feel it would be a very unsafe decision. I know people have probably written you in anger out of this, I do not I come to you with facts. This station can not be placed near people. If you need a place to put it. There's plenty of empty space near lake LA where it's berron and there is electrical near by If needed.

We can not have this kind of risk near people. We all know how a tesla fire works it burns for hours and house and can't be put out. Imagine the magnitude of all these batteries if they over heated or something happen. We are scared as residents. And are asking to please take this email into consideration and place this battery plant elsewhere. thank you for your time.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S24 Ultra, an AT&T 5G smartphone

From: [Arlene Diaz](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:11:14 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Supervisor Barger, I am a community member in Acton Ca and I oppose this the Bess project proposed for our community because it is a danger to my family. . We live in a high risk fire area and we already pay \$8,000 year in fire insurance to protect our homes. Your project would make us uninsurable.

Arlene Diaz
Acton Community Member
Sent from my iPhone

From: brettavazian@gmail.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:59:05 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Regarding Bess project:

I have lived in Acton since 1988. Our community has been deprived of many resources for many years due to us being a rural community. Now Bess wants to put a project in our community that really has no local benefits only huge safety risks. We are on well water, we can barely get fire insurance due to us being in a high fire risk community now you have opportunity to back what you and most everyone in our community knows is a huge risk for us, our children's health risk if something happens to one of these. I understand they fire suppression system very well. It is not 100% self containment. If something happens within their control or outside their control(Mother Nature) our community would never recover. Who ever reads this please speak for us as you wouldn't allow this in your backyard so please don't allow in ours. Thank you very much.

Sent from my iPhone

From: califkd2@gmail.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:25:22 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To whom it may concern;

I am a 27 year resident of Acton and am very concerned about the fire danger this facility will pose. As a homeowner, I am already dealing with homeowner insurance companies who no longer write policies for this area... and this is before the added danger this proposed facility will cause. I am not alone in this concern. Most of my neighbors have also been cancelled by their insurance company because of high fire risk. This project only increases our already high risk.

Concerned Acton resident,
Carol Ozbun-Smith

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Charlie Piccaro](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:04:08 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear supervisor, Barger,

AGENDA ITEM #53
Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC
Proprietary Electrical Transmission
Franchise

Please oppose this agenda item number 53.

The location of the proposed item is dangerous. If it were to have a failure, it would close the Angeles Crest Highway, Sierra Highway, the railway and the 14 freeway.
There are other places for it to be placed. This is just too dangerous for all involved.

I oppose this agenda item number 53 and I hope you will too.
Charles Piccaro
Retired Los Angeles County Lifeguard
Retired Los Angeles County Firefighter

From: [Amanda Buchan](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:51:01 PM
Attachments: [Hecate letter.docx](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1

LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Supervisor Barger,

My name is Amanda Buchan. I own the house at 34410 Angeles Forest Highway, literally across the street from the proposed project. This stone home was built in the 1940's and is part of the Vincent Hill Mining history of the area. I have been working with LA County Building & Safety for the better part of a year to add a 350sf bedroom addition that would attach what is currently a detached bathroom to the main house. The Fire Department has been the big stumbling block for this project, as they are requiring an over-the-top fire sprinkler system that goes above and beyond the required 10-minutes needed to evacuate the house in case of a fire, the purpose being to protect lives.

It is beyond imagining to me that somehow a massive lithium battery storage facility that poses catastrophic danger to the area can be built across the street. There are a multitude of dangers posed by this facility:

This facility is a ticking time bomb, that when it goes off, will cause massive wildfires and loss of homes and property (hopefully not lives) due to the difficulty involved in suppression.

It is located in an area that relies on ground water for the surrounding homes. A fire and the chemicals that would be needed to suppress it would contaminate the ground water for decades to come. I have seen nothing of a plan to remediate that threat.

It is located on a main commercial rail line that moves product across California. Any issues with the facility would disrupt that line, impacting rail service across southern CA. That same railway provides Metrolink service from the Antelope Valley to the Los Angeles Basin. Peoples ability to get to work would be disrupted.

It is located within an 1/8 of a mile from I-14, the only major connector between the Antelope & San Fernando Valleys, as well as a major north/south truck route. Any fire at the facility would have an extreme negative impact on traffic. And the other alternative routes would be impacted also – Angeles Forest Highway would be impassable, Soledad Canyon Rd would be impassable, Sierra Highway would be impassable.

Most homes in this area house livestock. If all the access points are shut down due to a fire, what evacuation plan has been put in place? There isn't one, for people or animals.

When were the environmental studies done? When were the traffic studies done? What kind of extensive disaster mitigation plans have been put in place. They weren't. Why is it that the

State of California can decide to put a project like this in a residential area? Just because we are in the high desert on large parcels does not mean this project is in the middle of nowhere. There are thousands upon thousands of vacant acres that would be more suitable for this type of project that would have minimal impact on lives and infrastructure should the unthinkable happen.

I do understand that the company wants to be able to place the plant in a place that has easily accessible infrastructure and that it is located close to the transmission plant. But the inhabitants of the area should not have to shoulder those potential burdens, especially when we will not even be the ones benefitting from the power produced! We already have had multiple power shut-offs due to limited power supplies, wind events, etc.

And we are not even talking about impacts to property values in the area. As a Certified Residential Real Estate Appraiser who has been working in the Santa Clarita & Antelope Valleys for 30+ years, the negative impact on home values within the impact area is not even calculable at this point. But it stands to reason that anyone willing to risk living in an area that could be high risk for fire, water contamination, etc. is going to be expecting to pay a much-reduced price for a home in that area. Who is going to reimburse the current homeowners from that loss in value? And it is nearly impossible to find homeowner's insurance for fire in the area now, with many people paying upwards of \$12,000/year, who is going to cover the additional cost – if insurance can even be found?

This is an incredibly ill-conceived plan and, given the unpredictability of the stability of lithium batteries in general, the dangers to our community and the additional costs that homeowners will be facing, should NEVER be allowed to be placed here.

Sincerely,

Amanda & Gorden Buchan

A printable word document of this letter is attached.

From: [Catherine von Kleinsmid](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM §53 Acton Hecate
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:04:03 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

As a resident of Acton, I hope and would appreciate you supporting our concerns over the possibility of a toxic and dangerous BESS facility being placed so close to homes and to our community when it could be placed more remotely. Please do not give in to additional profits over the safety of our communities. I know that you have heard all of the concerns, ie: runaway fires, groundwater contamination, toxic gases in case/when there is a fire, property fire insurance and values, quality of life, proximity to the San Andreas and major traffic corridors - the list goes on. Please don't let them take the easy way out by sacrificing the quality of life for thousands of people.

Sincerely,
Catherine von Kleinsmid

From: [Beth Cooke](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: xnorm@gmail.com
Subject: Agenda Item 53, Hecate Grid Humidor Storage
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:01:48 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger,

As current Acton residents, my husband and I are vehemently opposed to having the Hecate Grid Humidor Storage project basically in our front yard! Not only will it destroy property values in the area but it's proximity to our home puts our health and lives directly in danger. It's proximity to the 14 freeway... already notoriously bad for congestion and accidents would be a disaster waiting to happen. Absolutely zero about this project's proposed siting makes sense; it would be much better suited for the uninhabited desert areas in Palmdale, Lancaster and Rosemond where a problem with the facility would not put humans and livestock at risk. Please fight for your Acton residents and oppose this!!

Thank you in advance,

Elizabeth Cooke
Norman Cooke
902 Searchlight Ranch Road
Acton, CA 93510

From: [Casey Cantrell](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS Project
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 12:38:09 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

Each year more and more of my neighbors have their homeowner's insurance cancelled because of fire danger.

At the same time we frequently hear of fires caused by problems with lithium batteries.

Building a storage facility in a high fire danger is irresponsible, and will likely result in more cancellations and higher insurance rates for Acton residents.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Casey Cantrell
Acton resident

From: [Chuck Mercier](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 7:53:16 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

With all the problems of the storage batteries and fire possibilities and the location right next to the 14 Freeway and Sierra Highway the only way to get into the antelope Valley from the San Fernando Valley. That's ridiculous. at that location could burn for a month and could be very toxic for the People that live and commute in the area. Too many problems with these batteries, it should be located 2 miles south of that area away from the freeway doesn't make any sense. Chuck Mercier. I lived in Acton for 42 years.
Sent from my iPad

From: [anne williams](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Fwd: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 5:06:43 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **anne williams** <annebeth01@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2024 at 5:02 PM
Subject: Fwd: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
To: <kathryn@boss.lacounty.gov>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **anne williams** <annebeth01@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 7, 2024 at 4:55 PM
Subject: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
To: <kathyrn@bos.lacounty.gov>

Good afternoon,

I have been an Acton resident for 30 years now and am opposed to these storage units in our small town. We have been cancelled by two fire insurance companies this year as we are in a fire stone. Please help our small community as they storage units will be detrimental to our town. Please help!

Anne and David Eassa
818.281.0917

From: [Bobby Howard](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [Saraiya, Anish](#)
Subject: Hecate Grid Escondido Information
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:59:27 PM
Attachments: [Hecate Grid Update 2024.10.07.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Honorable Supervisor Barger,

Please find enclosed information related to planned design and installation standards of the Humidor battery storage project compared to the project at Escondido.

Thank you,
Bobby

Bobby Howard
Sr. Manager - Development & Origination
[Hecate Grid](#)
617-610-3679

Honorable Supervisor Barger,

We are pleased to provide more information on the Humidor project as it relates to the recent fire in Escondido. For your convenience, an executive summary is as follows:

- **Humidor Project:** Will be a cutting-edge battery energy storage system (BESS) using the latest technology unavailable in earlier projects with safety issues.
- **Escondido BESS (2017):** Once the largest lithium-ion battery storage system globally, newer projects are now over 25 times larger.
- **Industry Growth:** Since 2017, technology, safety protocols, and industry standards for BESS have significantly improved.
- **Safety Improvements:** Between 2018-2023, the rate of safety incidents in BESS projects fell by 97%, despite a massive increase in deployments.
- **Lessons from Incidents:** The 2019 Arizona BESS fire incident provided key lessons on fire mitigation, particularly using defensive water strategies.
- **Regulatory Advancements:** Since 2017, important safety codes and standards have emerged, including the International Fire Code, NFPA 855, and UL 9540A.
- **Humidor Project Safety:** With nearly a decade of additional knowledge, updated standards, and enhanced safety measures, the Humidor project is expected to bring significant benefits to Los Angeles County, minimizing perceived risks.

Hecate Grid's Humidor storage project will be a state-of-the-art facility that utilizes the most advanced technology that was unavailable to projects with recent safety incidents. For instance, SDG&E's Escondido Battery Energy Storage System ("Escondido BESS") began operations in the first quarter of 2017. Since then, technology, BESS designs, industry standards, and knowledge of how to respond to safety incidents have all improved.

At the time, the Escondido BESS was – according to energy news publication Utility Dive – the “single biggest lithium-ion battery in service on a utility grid in the world”. There are now projects more than 25 times larger than Escondido BESS in operation. Every new project, large and small, that has come online since 2017 contributes to the ever-growing industry knowledge of how to safely build and operate BESS facilities.

Our industry has grown while prioritizing safety, partly why the rates of BESS safety incidents continue to plummet. According to [a recent study](#) from Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and others, from 2018 to 2023, the rate of failure incidents on a per GW basis fell by 97%. This represents a period of tremendous growth where new BESS projects learned from the

first generation of BESS, came online, and have been far more likely to be operating safely ever since. This period also encapsulates the time since four firefighters were injured at a 2019 BESS incident in Surprise, Arizona. Investigation reports from that time revealed how to safely mitigate future fire incidents, namely by using water defensively rather than offensively. Despite the number of U.S. energy storage deployments increasing 18-fold from 2017 to 2022, there has yet to be another reported American BESS incident with an injury. We hope to see this trend continue.

Codes and standards now exist that simply did not in 2017. The first addition of a chapter on energy storage to the International Fire Code came in 2018. The first edition of NFPA 855 – the foundational standard which the industry relies on for safely and responsibly installing energy storage systems – came out in 2019. Since then, NFPA has come out with a 2023 edition and has already started on a 2026 edition. UL 9540A, Underwriters Laboratories’ “Test Method for Evaluating Thermal Runaway Fire Propagation in Battery Energy Storage Systems” was released in November 2017, almost a year after Escondido BESS was completed. These new codes and standards are why, unlike in 2017, there is now mention of energy storage in the California Fire Code, the NYFD has a selective list of approved technologies for BESS facilities, and Counties like Los Angeles are able to confidently site BESS knowing it will safely decarbonize and stabilize our grids.

Our Humidor project will have roughly a decade of additional industry knowledge compared to the Escondido BESS. It will have more standards to meet, more safety consultants to speak to, and more datapoints to study. This allows us to confidently say this project will be built and operated and bring tremendous benefits to Los Angeles County that far outweigh any perceived risks or costs.

Sincerely,

Bobby Howard

Humidor Project Manager

Hecate Grid LLC

Honorable Supervisor Barger,

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first generation of BESS, came online, and have been far more likely to be operating safely ever since. This period also encapsulates the time since four firefighters were injured at a 2019 BESS incident in Surprise, Arizona. Investigation reports from that time revealed how to safely mitigate future fire incidents, namely by using water defensively rather than offensively. Despite the number of U.S. energy storage deployments increasing 18-fold from 2017 to 2022, there has yet to be another reported American BESS incident with an injury. We hope to see this trend continue.

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Sincerely,

Bobby Howard

Humidor Project Manager

Hecate Grid LLC

From: ashleyteno@aol.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: I oppose the Hecate BESS Project in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 7:51:38 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

AGENDA ITEM #53
Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC
Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed Humidor Hecate BESS Project in our rural community of Acton. Acton is classified as a high fire zone, and the implications of such a facility in our area raise significant risk for both our residents and the environment.

The safety of our community must be the primary concern. With our town's susceptibility to wildfires, a large-scale battery energy storage system poses an increased risk. These systems have been known to experience thermal runaway, leading to fires that can spread rapidly, especially in areas with dry vegetation and high winds. The potential for a catastrophic event in a high fire zone is a risk that our community cannot afford to take. Many homeowners are already struggling to secure affordable homeowner's insurance. The proposed Humidor Hecate BESS Project could further intensify these concerns.

The environmental consequences of thermal runaway associated with battery energy storage systems cannot be overlooked. In the event of a fire caused by such an incident, hazardous materials and chemicals can contaminate the soil and water sources. This could lead to irreversible damage for our community. A more remote location for the facility needs to be considered.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider the placement of the battery energy storage system. I am not a supporter of the Humidor Hecate BESS Project in my community.

Sincerely,

Ashley Bayer

Concerned Acton Resident

From: [cheeb27](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: NO to BESS project in Acton, CA
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 10:48:24 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I've been a homeowner in Acton for 27 years. I adamantly oppose the proposed lithium battery project in Acton, CA.

We are a high fire danger community already; my family personally has already evacuated from fires several times. This project would create a ticking time bomb in our community, that already has a hard time obtaining fire insurance. My husband worked hard to pay our house off, which took over 20 years. Please don't let this project go through. It doesn't belong in our residential community. We are also retired seniors now and have horses. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia and Ronald Heeb
2650 Trails End Rd
Acton, CA 93510

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S21 FE 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone

From: [Christina Nave](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: No to bess
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:09:01 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

We are opposed to have this in our community! Safety is what's important and this is definitely not safe. Please we don't want this in our community. We are a high fire risk community.

From: [Charleen Mullin](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Please vote to oppose the Bess project
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:23:49 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To whom it may concern,

As a resident of Agua Dulce and a local Realtor, I am opposed to Hecate Grid Humidor storage facility, Agenda Item #53. Please vote against this project it is not safe in our high fire area, this could be catastrophic to our community.

Thank you,

Charleen Mullin

Re/max of Santa Clarita

[25129 The Old Road](#) #114

[Santa Clarita, Ca 91381](#)

Certified Distressed Property Expert

CMA Resource Network, Board Member

Remax Hall of Fame Member

DRE # [00911849](#)

[661-713-8216](#) cell

[661-284-5464](#) direct line

[661-268-1204](#) home

Checkout my REMAX page <https://rem.ax/2kx1Mtb>

Please remember I am never too busy for any of your referrals!



WIRE FRAUD NOTICE: Never Trust wire instructions sent via email or text. Never answer an email or text re: personal info, financials or closing dates. Always call a trusted/verified number for escrow or your agent, not received in an email, to double confirm instructions are correct.

From: [Christine Furman](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Proposed Site in Acton for a Lithium Battery Storage Facility
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 7:24:01 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger,

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed to the very dangerous battery site that could be built here in Acton, CA. Since the recent battery fires that have shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I can't image how Acton is even being considered a place to build such a dangerous site so close to our community.

As you are well aware, Acton is a high fire area and we are having difficulty getting fire insurance as it is. The Santa Ana winds are very strong here, making it even more dangerous when a fire breaks out. Houses are close by to the proposed site. Many of the houses are on wells that supply their drinking water and many have livestock. You are also aware that lithium fires effect ground water. I am certain there are other areas where it will be safer to build a lithium battery storage site.

The proposed site is on the street below my home. Please stop this facility from being built here in Acton. We need you help and support. You will be saving Acton, and all of Acton will be grateful.

Thank you,
Christine Furman

From: [Amy J. Bodek](#)
To: [Jacqueline Ayer](#)
Cc: [Barger, Kathryn](#); [Saraiya, Anish](#); [Kathy Park](#)
Subject: RE: The Humidor BESS capacity is actually 545 MW
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:17:28 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot BESS Approval Notes.PNG](#)
[Screenshot BESS Note 1.PNG](#)

Ms. Ayer –

Thank you for your email. To confirm, Regional Planning approved a project for 400 MW only. We did not and do not approve a project that would be for more than 400 MW.

I have attached a screenshot of the approval notes that were required to be on the site plan as Note 1.

We will ensure that any building or fire permits submitted to the County for review are for the maximum capacity of 400 MW (not 400 batteries).

Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

AMY J. BODEK, AICP (she/her/hers)

DIRECTOR

From: Jacqueline Ayer <sortacton@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:33 PM
To: Amy Bodek <ABodek@planning.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Barger, Kathryn <Kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov>; Saraiya, Anish <ASaraiya@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: The Humidor BESS capacity is actually 545 MW

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Director Bodek;

When the Humidor BESS site plan was approved on August 1, 2024, Regional Planning represented to the public that the capacity of the facility was 400 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 1 below). However, the equipment and facilities that Regional Planning *actually* approved on the site plan is a **545 MW** BESS consisting of 440 battery containers in which each container has a generation capacity of 1.236 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 2 below, and note that 440 containers x 1.236 MW per container = 544.84 MW total). It is not known if Regional Planning was aware that the actual capacity of the equipment that was approved by the site plan was 545 MW rather than the 400 MW represented to the public.

Figure 1:

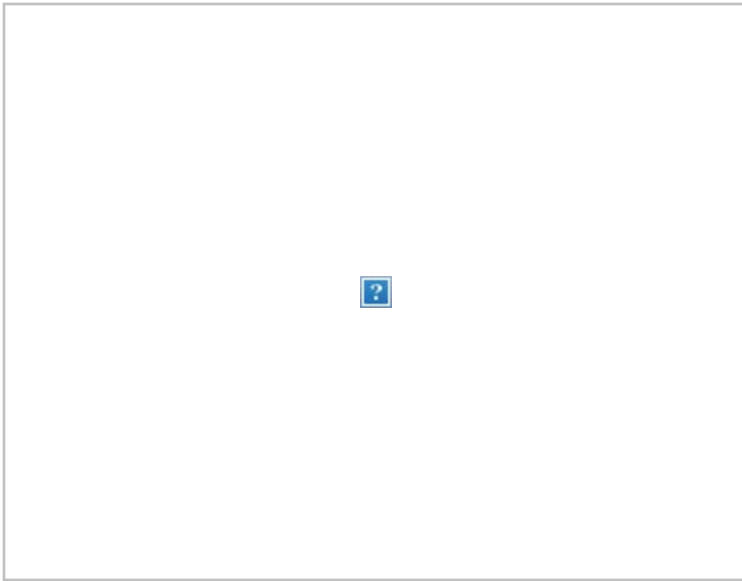
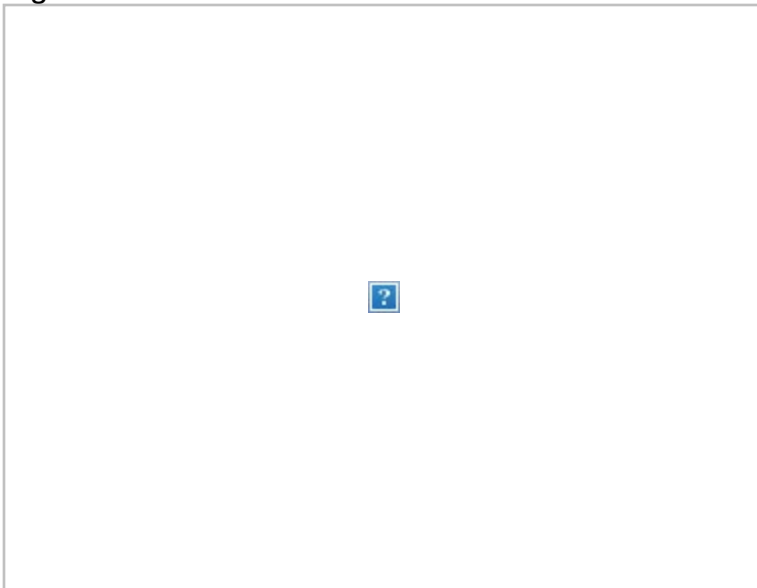


Figure 2:



Hecate has a proven track record of misrepresenting the facts of the Humidor project to County agencies and to the Department of Regional Planning in particular. For instance, Regional Planning approved the original site plan in 2022 based on Hecate's assurance that the project was located entirely on industrially zoned property; the residents of Acton had to go to great lengths to prove to Regional Planning staff that the project was not limited to just industrially zoned property and that it extended into agriculturally zoned land as well. It was only after this significant community effort that Regional Planning rescinded the 2022 approval and informed the Community of Acton that the Humidor BESS would undergo the Conditional Use Permit process; unfortunately, this did not occur.

The new realization that the actual capacity of the approved Humidor BESS project is more than half a gigawatt is the latest in a string of misrepresentations and mischaracterizations that have been uncovered regarding the Humidor Project. More importantly, this proves beyond any doubt that the Humidor Project is nothing like a

distribution substation because the capacity of a distribution substation is typically less than 100 MW (although in some rare instances, they can approach 200 MW). This is because utility planning standards do not accommodate distribution substations with capacities exceeding 500 MW (or even 400 MW) because the risk to load is too great (given that a mishap would result in the loss of electrical service to an unacceptably high number of customers). These material facts conclusively demonstrate that Regional Planning erred in applying "Interpretation 2021-03" to approve the Humidor BESS as a "distribution substation", and I present them to you based on my nearly 20 years of experience in participating in electrical proceedings before the CPUC and the FERC which involved extensive electrical system analyses and expert witness testimony.

Based on these facts, I request that Regional Planning rescind the Humidor BESS approval that was issued on August 1, 2024.

Respectfully submitted;
Jacqueline Ayer, Director
Save Our Rural Town



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

L.A. COUNTY
PLANNING

Permit: RPPL2023000687	Project No.: PRJ2023-001496	EXPIRES: 06-01-2028
Address:		APN: 385604044
Approved by: Anthony Cruz	Zone: A-2-2	Approved on: 08-01-2023

Site Plan Review approved for new battery electric storage system (BESS) pursuant to Subdivision and Zoning Ordinance Interpretation No. 2021-03 - Battery Electric Storage Systems. Subject BESS is wholly located within the M-1 (Light Manufacturing) Zone. Project to comply with development standards set forth in 22.140.200.B (Electric Distribution Substations - Development Standards), including an 8-foot perimeter wall and landscaping. Vegetation removal to be comply with Section 22.302.060.B (Acton Community Standards District - Community Wide Development Standards). Capacity of BESS is 400 megawatts and located on approximately 15 acres.

*Approval does not represent a building permit

*All necessary approvals from other County departments required prior to construction.

NOTES

- 1. EQUIPMENT DEPICTED IS PRELIMINARY ONLY. MAXIMUM NAMEPLATE CAPACITY OF THE BESS IS 400MW.
- 2. BATTERY SYSTEM SIZED PER MANUFACTURER AUGMENTATION RECOMMENDATION OF 43% CELL ADDITION, ALLOWING FULL POWER OUTPUT AT END OF LIFE BASED ON A 20-YEAR LIFESPAN.
- 3. BATTERY SYSTEM SIZED UNDER FOLLOWING ASSUMPTIONS:
4 HOUR RUN TIME AT END OF LIFE.
- 4. RETAINING WALLS REQUIRED AS INDICATED ON DRAWING. EARTHWORK TO REMAIN UNDER 100,000 CY TOTAL.
- 5. LIGHTING WILL COMPLY WITH CHAPTER 22.80 (RURAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING DISTRICT) OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE
- 6. PARCEL M1 ZONING BOUNDARY LOCATION PER L.A. COUNTY GIS.
- 7. SITE IS TO BE CONSTRUCTED PER CURRENT CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE (2022), NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION AGENCY 855 (NFPA-2020), AND LA COUNTY FIRE CODE (2023).
- 8. ALL CONTAINERS ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH UL 9450A.
- 12. ALL ROADS TO BE ALL-WEATHER ACCESS AND CONFORM TO LA COUNTY FIRE CODE (2023) 503 AND 501.4. INTERIOR RADIUS TO BE 19', CENTER RADIUS 45', AND EXTERIOR RADIUS 45'. WIDTH TO BE 26'.
- 13. ALL CONTAINERS TO BE SET BACK FROM LOT LINES A MINIMUM OF 10'.
- 14. PROPOSED LANDSCAPING VEGETATION TO BE COMPLIANT WITH LA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT FUEL MODIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.

From: [Charlie Piccaro](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: STOP Acton BESS Project
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:50:03 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am a retired Los Angeles County Lifeguard & Firefighter.

I worked for the County for 38 years since I was 17 years old.

My little town of Acton is being threatened by the BESS project.

Safety wise the BESS project in that certain location is an extreme hazard that could be avoided by letting it tie into the line somewhere where it wouldn't cause havoc if it melted down.

If the BESS project had a failure (as many battery holding facilities do), IT WOULD CUT OFF THE RAILWAY (which transports humans (ie Metro) & containers of goods from LA ports & our LA industry) AND THE 14 FREEWAY IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.

Please oppose this measure.

Thank you for your consideration,

Charles Piccaro

From: [Connie Lindeman](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:47:52 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am an Acton resident and I strongly opposed the BESS project being developed in our community of Acton!

Please support our community and vote no on this item.

Thank you!

With Regard,

Connie Lindeman

From: [D Buczynski](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:50:26 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger

As a resident of the city of Acton California I oppose the project. Due to the safety concerns of living in a high fire zone, we don't need the additional chances of uncontrollably fires breaking out in our town and community. There are many other places these storage can be built that won't impact people's towns or communities.

Thank you

David Buczynski
Acton Resident.

From: [D.Jacoby](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53-Can we rename it the Katheryn Barger Bess?
Date: Sunday, October 13, 2024 4:20:12 PM
Attachments: [The Bad Actor Factor.doc](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Katherine,

The attached document, prepared for and submitted to the staff of Rep Mike Garcia, will explain why I would want everyone to know and remember who pushed this through.

You can read it in about the same amount of time as it would take any knowledgeable 'Bad Actor' to make it happen.

D L Jacoby

The Bad Actor Factor

As an employee of the **Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP)** for 28 years I served in many capacities involving bulk and distribution power system operations.

In 1984 through 1986 I served as first operator during the construction and commissioning of the Intermountain Power Project 500 Kv **High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC)** transmission system and their associated HVDC converter stations in Adelanto California, and Delta Utah. There were several instances where accidental and deliberate actions on the part of construction, maintenance and operations personnel required re-engineering, repair, and/or rebuilding of tens of millions of dollars worth of primary and secondary systems.

In the capacity of Distribution Operator, building new substation around the city of Los Angeles, I had occasion to determine the size of the gap between designing and engineering of those stations in the abstract, and the requirements for having a safe and functional operating environment at those stations when the construction and commissioning was complete.

When the next station of similar or identical design came along, that point was highlighted by the realization that the flaws pointed out and corrected the first time around came back to me in the initial construction packets of the new stations. I was compelled once again to point out the lessons learned and insist that this time the corrections be made by reviewing the past projects before money was spent making the same mistakes over again.

Whenever new types of systems or equipment were being installed, part of this job was to write equipment descriptions and operating procedures so operations staff could use this new equipment safely and effectively.

When working as a Training Operator, both in the field and in the classroom, my job was to train and evaluate the knowledge and field performance of operations and other personnel (maintenance, construction, system protection, even janitorial and landscape groups). This is done to ensure that all employees had a full and realistic understanding of the hazards of their environment and duties so they could protect themselves, their fellow employees, their customers and equipment, and go home safely to their families after work.

Training operators to follow the procedures developed by the department for safe operations of these facilities was really only half the task. It was perhaps even more important to teach how and what to inspect before initiating a procedure, since equipment compromise or failure could turn a 'safe procedure' into a potential death trap. Safe operation of facilities that control enough energy to keep a city running requires the full attention and dedication of every person in the facility, regardless of the task being performed.

While working as field trainer at **Rinaldi Receiving Station (RS Rinaldi)** at the start of the first Gulf War (early 1990's) my operational supervisor called me into his office one Friday and said he had been asked by his boss downtown to generate a report evaluating the safety and security of our stations and system in general. They wanted to know if we would be vulnerable to compromise by 'Bad Actors' intent on causing fires, explosions, outages etc. I said I would give it some thought and get back to him. When I returned Monday my response was, with the right prints, cable schedules, some Mylar sheeting, a white hard hat, and \$500.00 in cash I could black out the interconnection of the 11 western states included in **Western Electricity Coordinating Council (aka WECC)** while melting the RS Rinaldi

high voltage buses to the ground.

His response was that I was doing an excellent job training the operators, and I should focus on that, he would find someone else to spend their time writing reports – which at the time was LADWP speak for 'That's not what downtown wants to hear'.

In 1987 I trained to be a Load Dispatcher, or what the **North American Electrical Reliability Corporation** (aka **NERC**) refers to as a Bulk Electrical System Operator. I was already proficient in protection systems intended to protect station and power line equipment from overloads that would cause failures resulting in fires, meltdown etc., this was my first exposure to protection schemes designed to protect the integrity of the power system as a whole. Protection of Interconnected Power Systems is a balancing act between many resources (ie. Generation, Power Factor correction, and flow control etc.) and load centers (towns and cities, large industrial, and geographically remote loads). It was at this point that I first became familiar with what WECC refers to as '**The Pacific AC Intertie**' (aka **Path 66**)

In a **High Voltage Alternating Current** (aka **HVAC**) power system, power flow is dynamic, meaning that power flows from every interconnected source to every interconnected load in proportion to the impedance of the system between the two. Every change in system configuration (addition/loss of a transmission line, generation source, transformer tap change, or load change) re-configures the flow accordingly.

Equipment protection schemes protect individual stations and pieces of equipment, so that if a shift in bulk system configuration causes an overload, the equipment protections will de-energise that component to prevent damage.

Path protection schemes protect the interconnected system. When a component of the power system fails or opens under heavy load conditions to protect a piece of equipment (for WECC this mostly occurs during summer heat waves), the scheme ensures there will always be sufficient alternate paths to maintain the interconnection. If the path protection is not properly configured, or fails for some reason, the interconnection fails. This results in 'Islanding', the break up of the interconnection into smaller interconnections, each of which then sheds *either* loads *or* generation resources until balance is re-established within each island.

A quick aside to this primer; Unlike transmission in dynamic HVAC power systems (described above) HVDC transmission systems are non-dynamic, meaning that the controls determine exactly how much power will flow and exactly where it will flow to, on or off - similar to a light switch.

Path 66 the Pacific HVAC Intertie was built specifically to offset the Pacific HVDC Intertie, an HVDC transmission system designed to bring low-cost Hydro-electric power from the Pacific Northwest to Los Angeles.

Path 66 was built to prevent islanding of the WECC interconnection if the HVDC fails under heavy load conditions. The northern portion involves 500Kv HVAC transmission lines brought together from a number of sources on different Right(s) of Way, each near significant load and/or generation resources, and culminates in the south at *Vincent Switching Station*, the only place where all the circuits of Path 66 share a physical proximity and several or all the lines of path 66 can be affected by a single event, causing islanding the path was built to prevent. The cost of this event is predicted to be ten or more billions of dollars, and includes the hazards associated with sudden regional blackouts and the resulting loss of; traffic signals (with potential deaths and injuries), power supply to hospitals and other critical infrastructure, loss of some or all communications in affected areas, potential damage to power system equipment, and days, weeks, or in some cases months to fully recover.

Note that *Vincent Switching Station*. Owned and Operated by **Southern California Edison** (aka **SCE**) is also a critical nexus of a Path commonly referred to as **Victorville Switching Station to Los Angeles** (aka **Vic-LA**) that makes a significant contribution (at times more than 50%) to supplying loads in Los Angeles and a number of other Southern California municipalities collectively referred to as **Southern California Public Power Authority** (aka **SCAPPA**) Path 66 and Vic-LA are well known and constantly studied as being a focus of vulnerability on the WECC interconnection. A quick trip to the internet furnishes abundant information concerning these matters.

Integrity of the WECC Power System demands that careful study be given to all aspects of safety and security of the *Vincent Switching Station*. This would include operations, expansion, and physical protection of this resource from both internal and external threats, be they deliberate and targeted or incidental/accidental. SCE does not have independent resources, power, or authority to provide protections here.

Recently an ambiguous consortium of interests known as Hecate LLC has developed a plan to build the Humidor **Battery Energy Storage System** (aka **BESS**) beneath the 500 Kv Transmission line Right(s) of Way less than a mile from the station. They have already managed to gain provisional approval of this project bypassing the local Acton Town Council, and with the apparent enthusiastic support of LA County Board of Supervisors . – If you review the public hearing on December 19th 2023 please note that the Supervisors gave short shrift to hearing community concerns, while ignoring comment time limits on parties supporting the project. Also curious was the appearance at the meeting of thirty or more journeyman electricians - at what cost? borne by whom? - to support the idea of building this specific project, I know of no other hearing that warranted this sort of attention.

BESS facilities are being encouraged by any number of political and power industry groups. For optimum utilization BESS's should be placed near the load centers which will utilize them. That way they can be charged at relatively low cost during times of low demand when transmission costs are minimal and surplus (low cost) power from non-dispatchable resources (solar/wind farms) is available to be stored. That way the BESS feeds loads when demand is high. Placing them where congestion charges will be caused during high demand (such as near *Vincent Switching Station*) is sub-optimal at best.

Bess facilities are also under scrutiny from an ever expanding list of old and new Electric Design and Protection Organizations, as well as Universities Study programs to address their vulnerability to *Thermal Runaway*, a condition that results in Lithium Ion battery cells causing fire spontaneously during normal operation, that cannot be quenched with normal firefighting procedures.

Everyone is familiar with the old adage that states 'Where there is smoke, there is fire', but Burrell Eveland, longtime power system operator and manager for various Southern California utilities points out that in the case of BESS's the corollary 'Where there is fire, there is smoke' is more on point.

Why?

Because Smoke, not fires, is the cause of electrical transmission systems failures as the ionized path of the smoke particles breach the insulation between the energized conductors or the conductors and ground, causing flash overs and relay operations that will protect the lines, but in this case *cause* the islanding Path 66 was built to prevent.

In the WECC interconnection it would be hard to find a more dangerous or inappropriate location than that proposed for the Humidor BESS. A couple weeks (far less time than learning to pilot a jet) at any of the facilities studying the causes and effects of Thermal Runaway would be sufficient for a determined and intelligent individual with knowledge of power system operations to reverse engineer the steps being taken to prevent runaway, essentially giving them a fuse to burn the Humidor BESS down and take WECC interconnection along with it.

Does the Hecate group, championing the project, have that in mind, or are they simply ignorant, or greedy, or indifferent enough to want it built anyway? We have no way to be certain, but once built we can be certain that there are plenty of Bad Actors in the world who are watching, and waiting for us to make a mistake of this magnitude and won't think twice about using it to its full detrimental effect.

From: [Daniel Cotten](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Humidor BESS project
Date: Saturday, October 12, 2024 4:22:30 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am protesting this project due to the location in our neighborhood. I live on Hillside Dr. next door to this project, there are 8-10 homes in the affected area. The property at 33440 Angeles Forest Hwy. was sold to the BESS contractor in October. We all get our water from wells, the well at this home has been dry for more than 10 years they were getting trucked water. The Otay Mesa battery plant caught fire last may, the Fire Dept. used 5 million gallons of water to try to put it out, then let it burn for 2 weeks. If this project proceeds tell me where they plan on getting water the nearest hydrant is at the Vincent Hill MetroLink station 2 miles away. We already live in a high fire zone a lot of us in the area have lost our Homeowners Insurance or had our policy triple. This would give the Insurance Companies reason to cancel all of us. There are many areas better suited for this type of project NOT IN NEIGHBORHOODS !

Daniel Cotten
33207 N.Hillside Dr.
Acton, Ca.
Sent from my iPad

From: [Darlene Ehrich](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor storage
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:20:34 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello,

I am a 7 year resident of Acton, California. I am very concerned about the changes that are being proposed for our area. I fear the increased fire danger from the Hecate Grid Humidor storage facility. My husband and I leave two children in Acton every morning and work down in the antelope valley. I fear one day being separated from them due to a fire which will cut off our way back into Acton. I fear that the school district, which is already struggling to manage bus capacity and has limited staff, will not be able to respond quickly to make sure that the 1250 students at the three schools will be transported to safety in an emergency. It is a parent's worst nightmare for their children to be susceptible to harm.

Sincerely,
Darlene Ehrich

From: [David Dzaich](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item # 53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:08:25 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello Kathryn,

I appreciate many things you have done as our representative. I am sending this email as a resident of Acton in opposition to the BESS project. There is no gain for the community that is worthwhile plus it is a potential health hazard of the site ever caught fire. The amount of money they sent out on the mailer probably exceeded the proposed money that would go to the community. None of this project directly benefits out community. It poses a health and safety issue. Plus it potentially will affect out home values. I am opposed.

David Dzaich
6124-Escondido-Canyon-Rd
Acton CA 93510.

Thank you

From: [Dawn Deans](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53-Hecate Grid Humidor Storage LLC, proprietary electrical transmission franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:02:15 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger:

Regarding AGENDA ITEM #53-Hecate Grid Humidor Storage LLC-Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise, my husband and I are strongly opposed to the BESS project being developed in our community of Acton for the following reasons:

1. SAFETY- This project is not safe for our community due to the risk of fire and lack of resources to fight any fire.
2. FIRE- These batteries are highly flammable- cases in point- the recent shutdown of the 15 and the St. Thomas bridge. Insurance costs in Acton are extremely costly due to us being in a high fire zone. Our annual insurance cost last year was nearly \$7,000.00. If this project goes through, these costs will surely rise again forcing many of us from our homes.
3. LACK OF WATER RESOURCES-As the former Executive Assistant for the Palmdale Water District for over 35 years, I know all too well how precious our water resources are. Where will the water come from to fight the fires that will result from these batteries?
4. AIR QUALITY-What happens to our air quality from fires from these batteries? Who would be responsible for future health problems resulting from the toxic odors emitted?

Thank you for your time and consideration for how dangerous this project will be to our community. Please let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely
Dawn Deans
661-236-7398
Ddeans@sbcglobal.net

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [dloporchio](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 7:29:01 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

PLEASE do not allow this project to take place. This is such a huge safety concern, we cannot believe that this project is potentially going to take place in our town. This could potentially wipe out the town of Acton. There is so much vacant land out in the Antelope Valley that it could be built there. It doesn't need to be built on top of the residents of Acton. I have lived in this town for 36 years and I know there's others that have lived here longer than me. I have no plans to move anywhere else. This is where I will stay unless the town gets burnt down.

Thank you

Donna Loporchio

From: [Don Wright](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Acton BESS
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 9:57:57 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger,

It is with a sense of urgency that I write this. It has come to my attention that there will be crucial meeting tomorrow regarding the proposed BESS located in Acton. As a long term resident of the community I must protest the concept of placing this technology in our small community.

I am a retired Battalion Chief for the Glendale Fire Department. I have been the incident commander on several large hazardous materials incidents and have an understanding of the potential ramifications of what happens when things go wrong.

The current thoughts on managing any lithium ion battery emergency involve isolating the defective device and allowing it to burn out. As evidenced by the incident on the Vincent Thomas bridge, these incidents disrupt the surrounding area for an extended period of time.

As you are well aware, there have been an increasing number of disturbing incidents involving lithium ion batteries in various industries, including storage systems, that have resulted in catastrophic destruction of equipment, uncontrolled release of hazardous byproducts and major disruption of daily routines as these batteries are allowed to burn themselves out. Considering the scope of the project under consideration for Acton, perhaps a pause is in order until the potential negative impacts are better understood. Perhaps even consideration of a different technology is in order.

Thank you for your time

Don Wright
Acton

Sent from my iPad

From: dtsmithfamily@gmail.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage in Acton (Oppose)
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:18:11 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger,

We are vehemently opposed to AGENDA ITEM #53
Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise in the Acton area.

This proposed battery storage is dangerous for our extreme high fire community. We are already paying exorbitant fire insurance rates and we fear insurance companies will only increase these rates if this hazardous battery storage facility is allowed in our area. At present we pay \$10,956/year in the so called Fair plan for a 2,000 sq ft home. This alone is unsustainable.

In addition to the dangers, this storage facility is next to a restaurant and other businesses and recreational areas (community equestrian arena) and ruins the rural beauty of our area of Acton.

Please do not support this project in the Acton community.

Sincerely,

Dan and Terri Smith
31735 Indian Oak Rd
Acton CA.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ed KE6BNL](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Humidor BESS transmission line
Date: Friday, October 11, 2024 10:18:53 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Do you want to be responsible for the biggest disaster to occur in this community do you want this to be on your name this is going to be a danger to the entire community. We already can't afford to live in Acton and Agua Dulce area because of the fire danger and increase insurance rates and you're going to add to that we won't even be able to keep our houses any longer

From: [Eduardo Vieyra](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM 53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 10:36:00 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Save ACTON!!

Locating any BESS facility in Acton – an area designated as a **HIGH FIRE DANGER AREA** – or the surrounding region is unacceptable. Featured at right are 4 more critical reasons why BESS facilities should not be located anywhere in the Acton region.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Elizabeth Moreno](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Acton Bess project
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:49:53 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Agenda item #53
Hecate Grid humidor storage 1
LLC proprietary electrical transmission franchise

Hi Kathrn,

As a Acton resident it is very important for the safety of our community that we dont allow this BESS project. I'm in opposition to this it will endanger our environment.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Moreno

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: Please support the Humidor Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 10:35:36 PM
Attachments: [Humidor BESS benefits information letter \(09_07_2024\).pdf](#)

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

From: Craig Lewis <craig@clean-coalition.org>
Sent: Friday, September 27, 2024 3:45 PM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Please support the Humidor Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Chair Horvath and Board Supervisors:

The Clean Coalition is a very technical nonprofit with a mission to accelerate the transition to renewable energy and a modern grid. As the Executive Director of the Clean Coalition, I am writing to express the Clean Coalition's support for the Humidor Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). I also plan to express support verbally at the Board of Supervisors meeting on 8 October, at which the necessary franchise agreement for the Humidor BESS is expected to be on the agenda.

Importantly, the Humidor BESS is being sited at an ideal location, near the massive Vincent Substation in north Los Angeles County where the BESS is poised to deliver numerous location-specific benefits that include the following:

- Enhancing a key intersection of the grid by reducing grid congestion and improving grid reliability.
- Maximizing the delivery of renewable energy and minimizing the use of gas-fired generators.
- Utilizing disturbed land in an industrial zone and ensuring that fewer deployments of future BESS will be needed on pristine lands.

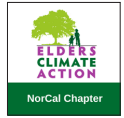
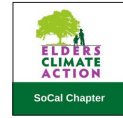
The Humidor BESS will deliver many additional benefits, and the attached group support letter from the Clean Coalition, NRDC, Climate Resolve, Permacity Foundation, and Elders Climate Action highlights the details.

I am happy to answer any questions you might have for me, including via email and/or during the 8 October Board of Supervisors meeting at which I plan to participate by making verbal comments that reinforce the Clean Coalition's support for the very important Humidor BESS.

Overall, the Clean Coalition strongly encourages the County to fully support the Humidor BESS, including by approving its necessary franchise agreement.

Sincerely,

Craig Lewis
Executive Director
Clean Coalition
Santa Barbara | Menlo Park | Colorado Springs
650-796-2353 mobile
craig@clean-coalition.org



Humidor Storage Project – SUPPORT

To whom it may concern,

The Clean Coalition (clean-coalition.org), a technical nonprofit organization with a mission to accelerate the transition to renewable energy and a modern grid, is supporting the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approval of a franchise agreement that will allow for the approved Humidor Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to connect to the grid at the existing Vincent Substation with an approximately one-mile, undergrounded electrical line. This 400-megawatt (MW) & 1,200-megawatt-hour (MWh) BESS has an approved site plan review and will be located on disturbed land near the existing Vincent Substation in Acton, California. The connection of Humidor to the grid is key to maximizing renewable energy generation, reducing grid congestion, and improving grid reliability throughout Los Angeles County – and even across the entire State of California. The Vincent Substation serves as a vital intersection of transmission & distribution lines that tie renewable energy from the Central Valley to loads throughout Los Angeles County. As noted, the County has already approved the BESS itself. All that remains is for the Board of Supervisors

to allow the gen-tie line to be installed in an existing utility corridor in a public street.

Humidor will be an essential enhancement to the Vincent Substation by reducing congestion at this vital location on the grid, while maximizing the ability for renewable energy to be delivered to loads – and thereby minimizing the curtailment (i.e., waste) of renewable energy. Humidor will also minimize the need for dirty gas-fired plants to operate, including during periods of peak electricity demand, which will prevent pollution that would otherwise spew into impact-

ed communities across the Los Angeles region.

Proven BESS technology will be incorporated in Humidor, and large buffer zones and comprehensive safety plans will ensure community-friendly operations. Furthermore, the substantial investment in Humidor will drive significant economic stimulation in the form of local job creation, tax revenue generation, and indirect spending. Additionally, \$100,000 per year has been committed to community initiatives. In short, Humidor aligns with California’s commitment to resilience, sustainability, and prosperity.

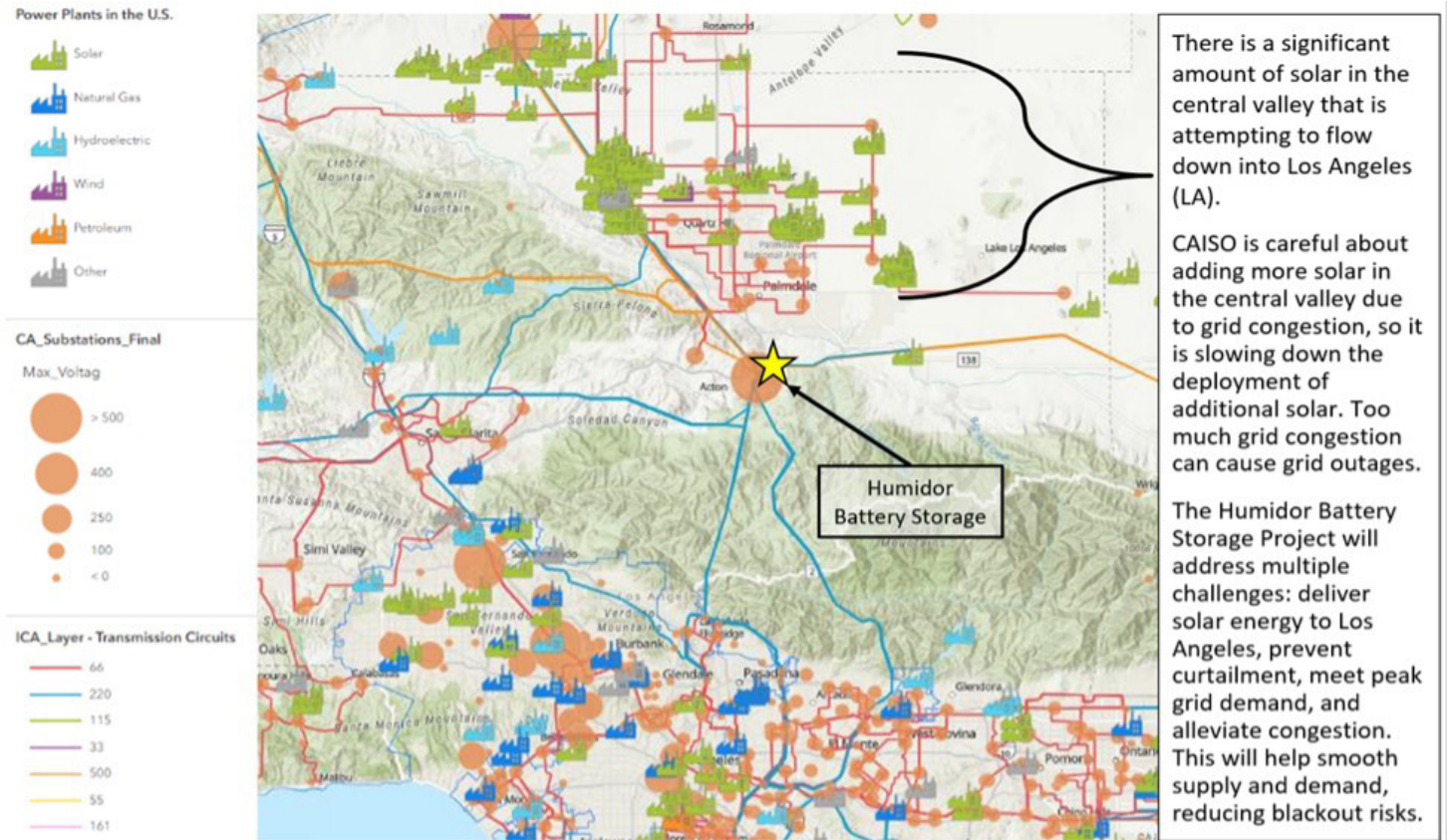
There are five key reasons to support the franchise agreement for Humidor:

1. Critical location near the existing Vincent Substation to enhance renewable energy delivery, grid reliability, and resilience.
2. Community-friendly deployment, sited on disturbed land in an industrial zone and already approved by the County, with significant distances to the Acton town center.
3. Safe BESS technology that is already proven throughout the United States and beyond.
4. Significant economic stimulation to the region.
5. Targeted benefits for the Acton community.

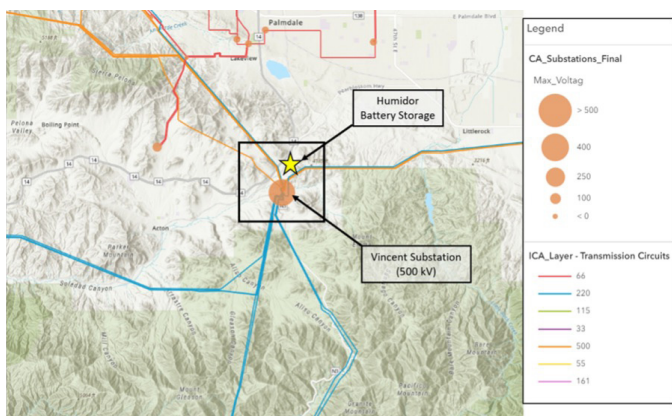
Important location to provide reliability and meet energy demand

■ Reduce grid congestion by storing solar energy and other renewables from the Central Valley that would otherwise be curtailed during times of grid congestion and delivering it to loads in the Los Angeles region, thereby preventing gas-fired generation that otherwise pollutes impacted communities.

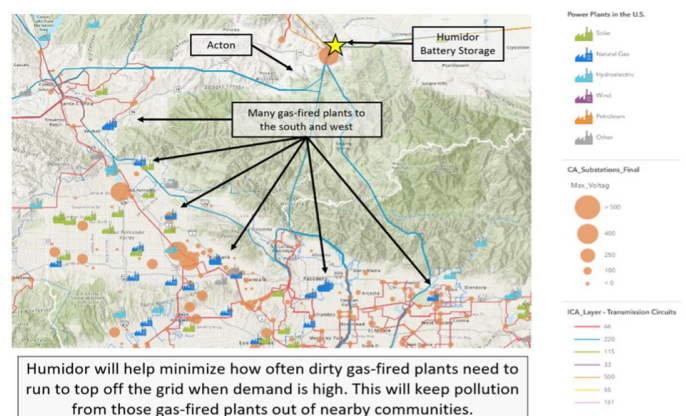
■ Improve reliability system-wide during the hottest hours of the year and decrease the runtime of dirty gas-fired plants.



Humidor is in the perfect location to reduce grid congestion and improve reliability



Humidor is located at a major grid intersection



Humidor will keep pollution from nearby gas-fired plants out of nearby communities

Significant distances from other facilities, including housing

In its approved location, Humidor will:

■ Use already disturbed industrial land recently used for commercial trucking and as an electrical subcontractor yard.

■ Be buffered by roadways, rail lines, and industrial facilities.

■ Be visually screened by local, native vegetation and well-secured by a 8-foot-high perimeter wall and internal security fence.



FAR AWAY FROM RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS



ADJACENT TO GRID INFRASTRUCTURE



AN INDUSTRIAL AREA BETWEEN A FREEWAY AND RAIL LINE



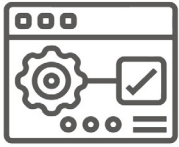
FAR AWAY FROM RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS

Humidor's approved location is on already disturbed industrial land buffered by industrial infrastructure



A rendering of the approved Humidor BESS with attractive natural screening

Same safe BESS technology that is already deployed across the United States



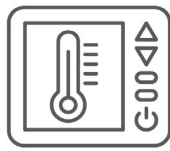
24/7
MONITORING



EXTERNAL FIRE
ALARM CONTROL
PANELS



SMOKE AND GAS
DETECTION
SYSTEMS



VENTILATION +
TEMPERATURE
CONTROL
SYSTEMS

BATTERY STORAGE TECHNOLOGY HAS RAPIDLY ADVANCED

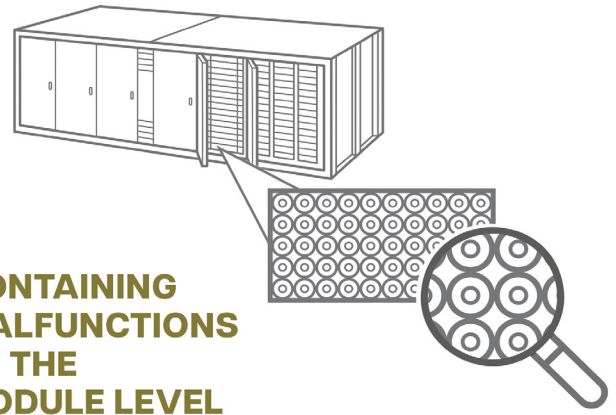
A MODERN, TESTED AND PROVEN APPROACH TO FIRE SAFETY

■ Hecate Grid is working with the LA County Fire Department to exceed code requirements at Humidor and develop a site-specific emergency response plan to train on the project equipment.

■ A joint study* by the Electric Power Research Institute, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and TWAICE, determined that problems with system components other than battery cells and modules were responsible for most BESS failures. That the "common storyline... that failures are almost all attributable to battery modules" is inaccurate. *<https://www.epri.com/research/products/000000003002030360>

■ Hazard studies* from similar battery projects concluded that the probability is very low that a battery failure would ever require a Fire Department response. It was also determined that any conceivable fire-related event would be of similar concern as a Class A Fire, which is a fire involving ordinary combustibles such as wood, paper, fabric, and plastic. *<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iDpar4MLq6ecinXIURFKM-KdSeaP-Zog/view?usp=sharing>

■ Other hazard studies* revealed that risks from any potential exhaust from a battery issue would be of little concern beyond 15 feet from the source battery cabinet, in part due to the simple fact that warm exhaust quickly rises and scatters. *<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1i4WxNY0DVxXDd6b2y11C42w8pEKR8PAE/view?usp=sharing>



CONTAINING MALFUNCTIONS AT THE MODULE LEVEL

TECHNOLOGY CAN COMPARTMENTALIZE, DETECT AND SUPPRESS, MITIGATING ANY SPREAD OF CELL FAILURES. BMS CAN DISCONNECT INDIVIDUAL MODULES AS NEEDED TO ISOLATE AN ISSUE.



MEET OR EXCEED ALL LOCAL
AND STATE FIRE CODES



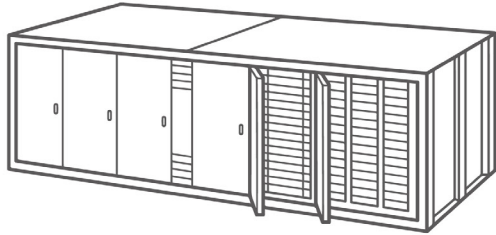
SITE-SPECIFIC
ANNUAL TRAINING

EMERGENCY PLANNING + LOCAL COORDINATION

COLLABORATE WITH LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONDERS THROUGH TRAINING AND EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN.



Same safe BESS technology that is already deployed across the United States



SECURE AND CONTAINED ENCLOSURES

PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND UTILIZED BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEMS ARE NOT A THREAT TO THE ENVIRONMENT, OR GROUNDWATER.



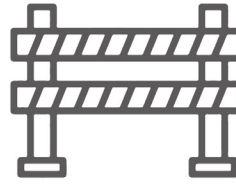
DECOMMISSIONING

WHEN THE PROJECT REACHES THE END OF ITS USEFUL LIFE, IT WILL BE DECOMMISSIONED, AND ALL THE COMPONENTS WILL BE CLEARED AND PROPERLY RECYCLED OR DISPOSED OF WITHOUT COST TO LOCAL.

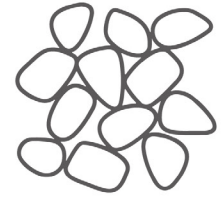


READILY AVAILABLE WATER SUPPRESSION TOOLS

DESIGN AND INSTALL FIRE HYDRANT NETWORK TO BE USED TO CONTAIN AND COOL BATTERY ENCLOSURES TO AVOID AND OR MITIGATE AGAINST ANY ISSUES.



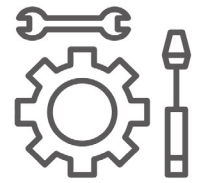
SAFETY ZONE AROUND THE PERIMETER OF THE FACILITY



GRAVEL BREAKS AND MASONRY WALL



SUBSTANTIAL SETBACKS FROM PARCEL BOUNDARIES



REGULAR MAINTENANCE



SEISMICALLY BRACED AND PROTECTED



THE PROJECT WILL NOT USE GROUNDWATER AND WILL SOLELY USE LA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS WATER

ADDITIONAL PHYSICAL SAFETY DESIGN FEATURES

ENHANCEMENTS TO ADDRESS FIRE RISKS



Respect for environmental & cultural resources

The site will use LA County public water from District 37; water connections already exist.

Humidor has no impact on sensitive biological areas or species.

Humidor has no impact on cultural resources or artifacts.

Significant economic benefits to the local community



Will create approximately 100 union construction jobs.



Will employ 2 to 4 maintenance staff in addition to a 24/7 remote operations team.



Approximately \$2,000,000/year in annual tax benefits to LA County.



\$100,000 per year for community initiatives.

Humidor aligns perfectly with California’s commitment to resilience, sustainability, and prosperity – and I hope you will join the Clean Coalition in allowing this approved project to connect to the Grid by the approval of a franchise agreement.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Craig
Lewis**
Founder &
Executive
Director
Clean Coalition

**Jonathan
Port**
Founder
Permacity Foun-
dation

**Merrian
Borgeson**
Policy Director,
California,
Climate &
Energy
Natural
Resources
Defense Council
(NRDC)

**Jonathan
Parfrey**
Executive
Director
Climate Resolve

**Richard
Burke**
Leader
Elders Climate
Action SoCal
and NorCal

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: Re: Grid Reliability/Enable Renewables
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 10:22:17 PM

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

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

From: Michael Gruberger <michaelgruberger@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 3, 2024 9:56 AM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject:

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Grid Reliability/Enable Renewables

To the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to express my support for Hecate Grid's Humidor Storage project at the upcoming hearing. As you consider granting their franchise agreement, I urge you to think about the grid reliability that this project will have for the Los Angeles area.

California is no stranger to brownouts or even blackouts. During these peak times in California's electricity demand, especially during the summer months or in a heat like we experienced at the beginning of September, battery storage can be used to help meet energy needs.

By storing renewable energy when it's not needed, battery storage facilities, like this one, will help power thousands of homes in the area when it's needed most.

I hope that you will join me in supporting battery storage projects here in the County, starting with the Humidor Storage Project.

Thank you.
Sent from my iPhone

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: Support for Storage Project to Enhance Grid Reliability
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 9:20:44 PM

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

From: Mallory Mead <mallory.r.mead@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, October 4, 2024 5:57 AM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Support for Storage Project to Enhance Grid Reliability

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to express my support for Hecate Grid's Humidor Storage project at the upcoming hearing. As you consider granting their franchise agreement, I urge you to think about the grid reliability that this project will have for the Los Angeles area.

California is no stranger to brownouts or even blackouts. During these peak times in California's electricity demand, especially during the summer months or in a heat like we experienced at the beginning of September, battery storage can be used to help meet energy needs.

By storing renewable energy when it's not needed, battery storage facilities, like this one, will help power thousands of homes in the area when it's needed most.

I hope that you will join me in supporting battery storage projects here in the County, starting with the Humidor Storage Project.

Thank you.

Mallory Mead

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: Grid
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:27:42 PM

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

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

From: Matthew Correia <mcc.creativedesigns@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 11:38 AM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Grid

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Grid Reliability/Enable Renewables (subject line)

To the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to express my support for Hecate Grid's Humidor Storage project at the upcoming hearing. As you consider granting their franchise agreement, I urge you to think about the grid reliability that this project will have for the Los Angeles area.

California is no stranger to brownouts or even blackouts. During these peak times in California's electricity demand, especially during the summer months or in a heat like we experienced at the beginning of September, battery storage can be used to help meet energy needs.

By storing renewable energy when it's not needed, battery storage facilities, like this one, will help power thousands of homes in the area when it's needed most.

I hope that you will join me in supporting battery storage projects here in the County, starting with the Humidor Storage Project.

Thank you.

Citizen MC Correia
Sent from my iPhone

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: Grid Reliability/Enable Renewables
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:26:19 PM

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

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

From: Julie dC Lowe <juliedclowe@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:04 PM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Grid Reliability/Enable Renewables

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to express my support for Hecate Grid's Humidor Storage project at the upcoming hearing. As you consider granting their franchise agreement, I urge you to think about the grid reliability that this project will have for the Los Angeles area.

California is no stranger to brownouts or even blackouts. During these peak times in California's electricity demand, especially during the summer months or in a heat like we experienced at the beginning of September, battery storage can be used to help meet energy needs.

By storing renewable energy when it's not needed, battery storage facilities, like this one, will help power thousands of homes in the area when it's needed most.

Areas surrounding my home have been affected several times these past few months causing personal friends and their families and pets to be displaced for hours at a time, not to mention their weekly supply of groceries to be negatively impacted. The financial implications to families who are already struggling to put food on the table creates an avalanche of detrimental effects.

I hope that you will join me in supporting battery storage projects here in the County, starting with the Humidor Storage Project.

Without forethought and planning, we are planning to fail. As elected officials whose constituents have placed their faith in you to do what is right and in the best interest of the people, I implore you to grant this agreement.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Lowe

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: Grid Reliability/Enable Renewables
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:25:04 PM

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

From: Eric Velazquez <jinroh170@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:05 PM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Grid Reliability/Enable Renewables

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to express my support for Hecate Grid's Humidor Storage project at the upcoming hearing. As you consider granting their franchise agreement, I urge you to think about the grid reliability that this project will have for the local community.

Here in Palmdale, we are familiar with brownouts and blackouts. During these peak times in California's electricity demand, especially during the summer months or in a heat like we experienced at the beginning of September, battery storage can be used to help meet energy needs.

By storing renewable energy when it's not needed, battery storage facilities, like this one, will help power thousands of homes in the area when it's needed most.

I hope that you will join me in supporting battery storage projects here in the County, starting with the Humidor Storage Project.

Thank you.

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: Battery Energy Storage Brings Grid Reliability
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:24:15 PM

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

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

From: Ashleigh G <ashleighmgallant@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:21 PM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Battery Energy Storage Brings Grid Reliability

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to express my support for Hecate Grid's Humidor Storage project at the upcoming hearing. As you consider granting their franchise agreement, I urge you to think about the grid reliability that this project will have for the Los Angeles area.

California is no stranger to brownouts or even blackouts. During these peak times in California's electricity demand, especially during the summer months or in a heat like we experienced at the beginning of September, battery storage can be used to help meet energy needs.

By storing renewable energy when it's not needed, battery storage facilities, like this one, will help power thousands of homes in the area when it's needed most. I hope that you will join me in supporting battery storage projects here in the County, starting with the Humidor Storage Project.

Thank you,

Ashleigh Gallant

From: [ExecutiveOffice](#)
To: [First District](#); [Holly J. Mitchell](#); [Third District](#); [Supervisor Janice Hahn \(Fourth District\)](#); [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [PublicComments](#)
Subject: FW: IBEW 11 in Support of Hecate Grid 's Humidor Battery Energy Storage System Letter
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:18:08 PM
Attachments: [Hecate Grid's Humidor Battery Energy Storage System.pdf](#)

The following correspondence is being forwarded to you for your review/information.

From: Compliance <compliance@ibew11.org>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:09 PM
To: ExecutiveOffice <ExecutiveOffice@bos.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Tommy Faavae <faavae@ibew11.org>
Subject: IBEW 11 in Support of Hecate Grid 's Humidor Battery Energy Storage System Letter

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Good Afternoon Chair Horvath and Board of Supervisors,

Please find attached a letter in support of the Humidor Battery Storage Project, scheduled for discussion during tomorrow's meeting under agenda items #53 and #107. I kindly ask you to take a moment to review it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Roxann Roman | Compliance Administrator
IBEW/NECA/LMCC | Executive Assistant to Director of Business Development
297 N. Marengo Ave. | Pasadena, CA 91101
Office:(626) 449-8058 | Fax:(626) 449-8125
compliance@la-ibew-neca.com

 Please consider the environment before printing this email



IBEW Local Union Number 11

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO

ROBERT CORONA, BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY

The Honorable Lindsey Horvath
Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

September 11, 2024

Dear Chair Horvath and Board Supervisors:

This letter is written on behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 11 in support of Hecate Grid's Humidor Battery Energy Storage System, located in Los Angeles County in the unincorporated Acton area, and their franchise agreement.

The IBEW Local Union 11 represents more than 12,000 local electricians, communications and systems installers, transportation systems journeyman, civil service electricians, apprentices, construction wireman and construction electricians. We are the dynamic voice of the electrical construction industry in Los Angeles. We work with business, labor, community and environmental organizations as well as clergy and those who are working towards making a better Los Angeles, including Hecate Grid.

Hecate Grid's Project Humidor, and others like it, help enable the use of renewable energy and lessen the strain on the energy grid. Additionally, they have many positive impacts to the community during both construction and throughout future operation.

During construction, the project will create 100 valuable, skilled union construction jobs in the clean energy industry. These are good paying, family-sustaining jobs that anchor Los Angeles' union families and provide economic activity throughout the supply chain.

This project will also bring significant economic benefits to the town of Acton and to the Los Angeles County area through tax revenue.

I urge you to continue to support Hecate Grid's Humidor Battery Energy Storage System and grant them their franchise agreement.

Sincerely,

Robert Corona
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

RC/bcm opeiu#537 afl-cio

From: [flyingshamrockranch](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 53~ BESS Humidor Project ~Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:22:34 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello Supervisor Barger,

I wonder how we homeowners in Acton will ever be able to renew our homeowners insurance policies with the BESS project, which you support, located in my backyard.

I live on Angeles Forest Hwy and will be in direct line when this facility catches fire.

I support solar energy but not BESS facilities in residential areas, near a major freeway, near a Metrolink station and in a high fire danger area. An example of the danger is the recent Escondido BESS fire last month. The technology of these facilities is not yet safe. They need to be placed away from homes, businesses and major transportation corridors.

I hope you change your mind about this project and protect Acton residents and AV commuters.

Sincerely,

Karen O'Reilly
32210 Angeles Forest Hwy
Palmdale, CA 93550

From: garryconner1@roadrunner.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Bess Plant in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:00:43 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am against the BESS project being developed in our community of Acton! Why can't they do this type of fire hazard project farther out by Mojave where the population and land values are far less and if there was a fire it might not be as big of a problem.

Thank you, Garry Conner

From: [Ginger Balkcom](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: NO BESS in ACTON
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:34:59 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Good afternoon Ms. Barger,

As a 21 year resident of Acton, with 2 children and elderly parents living with us,

I URGE you to vote against the Hecate Grid Humidor Storage site.

We are absolutely against this site! You talk to anyone in Acton and they will tell you the same thing. I

was shocked to find out that you previously voted FOR this site.

If I am mistaken on that, I apologize.

BUT WE THE PEOPLE OF ACTON ARE ABSOLUTELY AGAINST THIS SITE AND WE NEED YOU TO SUPPORT US IN VOTING NO.

I have always voted for you Ms. Barger. We need you to support your constituents and not go against the majority of Acton. Please do not vote FOR this site.

Thank you for your time.

Ginger Balkcom

805-404-1701

1734 Mary Road

Acton, CA 93510

From: [Grace Chapman McCarty](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:09:03 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear supervisor Barger,

I'm writing to ask that you vote against the placement of the BESS battery facility in our local community of Acton. This is very dangerous in any neighborhood but in a high fire risk area such as ours it's wildly unsafe to all of us. This facility will be supplying energy to the city of Los Angeles but nothing for us. We take all the risk of an out of control fire that can't be easily put out, sends toxic out gassing into the surrounding area and poisons the groundwater. Almost all of us use well water. This BESS facility will lower our home values and raise our insurance which is already sky high.

Acton and Agua Dulce do not want BESS placed anywhere near us. The increase in these facilities is making more and more news for dangerous, runaway fires. I ask you as your constituent to please stop this BESS facility from being built in our area. No neighborhood should have to be used as a testing ground for what's clearly a new and unsafe technology

Sincerely ,

Grace McCarty
Agua Dulce, Ca. 91390

Sent from my iPhone

From: [h2oskur](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: actontakesaction@att.net
Subject: Humidor Hecate Bess in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 5:22:15 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Surpevisor Barger.

I am writing you to express my STRONG opposition to this BESS project and all proposed BESS projects to be located in Acton. WHEN one of these units catch fire, they are almost impossible to extinguish and will spread to adjacent units. The amount of water used will destroy the aqufuir rendering our homes uninhabitable like the homes in Hinkley, CA. We will all have to evacuate due to t he toxic smoke from the fire. Our fire insurance, which is already hard to obtain and exorbitantly priced, will be even harder to get and more expensive. It's also too close to all of our evacuation routes. The location of these projects are in the middle of our only escape routes....the 14 freeway, Angeles Forest rd. and the metrology line. On top of all these very valid reasons, Acton gets zero benefit from placing BESS projects in our community. Coming from a LOS ANGELES CITY firefighter with 25 years experience, please consider all my concerns.

Thank you,
Doug Bayer
Acton resident of 31 years

Sent from my Galaxy

From: haileysartwork@aol.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: NO HUMIDOR BESS Project
Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2024 11:46:19 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I OPPOSE this HUMIDOR BESS project and therefore DO NOT SUPPORT the adoption of the Franchise Agreement! This project is extremely dangerous. And, I do **NOT** want it built in our town of Acton, PERIOD.

Thank you,
Mrs. Deborah Guild
Acton, CA

From: [Ingrid R.](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: No in Acton BESS Project please!!!
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:45:52 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear supervisor,

Please vote no on the BESS project. We beg that you don't put our sleepy community in danger. Many neighbors have retired here and are already having a hard time with getting home insurance and this new project will make things worse for us!

We need you to say no and keep BESS from compromising the safety of our beloved community!

Thank you!

Ingrid & Robert Rueda
Sent from my iPhone

From: j2ikathy@gmail.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:52:46 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my opposition to this project AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise.

My concerns are for the health and safety of the Acton community residents as well as the animals who reside here.

My husband and I own and operate an Animal Sanctuary less than 2 miles away from this proposed site.

The risk to the health and safety of us, our animals and our neighbors is unacceptable.

Sincerely,

Kathy

~.~

Be the difference you want to see.

smalllogo



Journey to Independence, LLC
1575 Sierra Highway, Acton, CA 93510
office: 661-269-0665
fax: 661-269-1389

Kathy Lange, MS PhDc
Director Journey to Independence, LLC
661-269-0665

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From: [Jacqueline Ayer](#)
To: [Amy J. Bodek](#)
Cc: [Barger, Kathryn](#); [Saraiva, Anish](#); [Kathy Park](#)
Subject: Re: The Humidor BESS capacity is actually 545 MW
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 11:06:19 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Director Bodek;

Thank you very much for your prompt reply; it is greatly appreciated.

The problem is, the approval issued by Regional Planning does not limit the capacity of the project to 400 MW; it merely states an understanding pertaining to the capacity of the Humidor Project. If Regional Planning had intended to limit the capacity of the project, then the approval would include a definitive statement to this effect such as "the maximum electrical storage capacity of this facility shall not exceed 400 MW"; however, the approval includes no such statement and it imposes no such restrictions. Additionally, the notes to which you refer regarding nameplate capacity are not conditions imposed by Regional Planning; rather they are merely applicant statements. Any attorney of reasonable competency will successfully argue that, despite the apparently incongruous applicant statement on the site plan regarding nameplate capacity, the County nonetheless approved *all* the equipment and facilities depicted on the site plan and did not impose any limitations on these equipment and facilities; therefore, Hecate has a vested right to construct *all* the equipment depicted on the approved site plan. It appears that Hecate's attorneys are reasonably competent and will therefore successfully oppose any attempt by Regional Planning to prevent them from constructing *all* the equipment and facilities that were approved on the site plan even if their combined capacity exceeds 400 MW.

It may be that the reason Hecate withdrew the Fleaflicker project from the CAISO queue is because they may no longer require it. This is because CAISO approved system impact studies for Humidor at 300 MW and the adjacent Fleaflicker at 200 MW for a combined capacity of 500 MW (all of which was going to be delivered by one transmission line); if instead Hecate just constructs the Humidor Project with a 545 MW capacity, the Flea Flicker project is arguably redundant and Hecate need not incur the cost or aggravation associated with its entitlement. That is certainly how it looks to people "on the outside".

Thank you again for seriously considering the concerns I raised; it is greatly appreciated. I completely understand if you are unable to substantively respond to this email; I send it only because I think it is important to share perspectives with you regarding "community critical" projects.

Sincerely;
Jacqueline Ayer, Director
Save Our Rural Town

On Mon, Oct 7, 2024 at 6:17 PM Amy Bodek <ABodek@planning.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Ms. Ayer –

Thank you for your email. To confirm, Regional Planning approved a project for 400 MW only. We did not and do not approve a project that would be for more than 400 MW.

I have attached a screenshot of the approval notes that were required to be on the site plan as Note

1.

We will ensure that any building or fire permits submitted to the County for review are for the maximum capacity of 400 MW (not 400 batteries).

Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

AMY J. BODEK, AICP (she/her/hers)

DIRECTOR

From: Jacqueline Ayer <sortacton@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:33 PM
To: Amy Bodek <ABodek@planning.lacounty.gov>
Cc: Barger, Kathryn <Kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov>; Saraiya, Anish <ASaraiya@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: The Humidor BESS capacity is actually 545 MW

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Director Bodek;

When the Humidor BESS site plan was approved on August 1, 2024, Regional Planning represented to the public that the capacity of the facility was 400 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 1 below). However, the equipment and facilities that Regional Planning *actually* approved on the site plan is a **545 MW** BESS consisting of 440 battery containers in which each container has a generation capacity of 1.236 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 2 below, and note that 440 containers x 1.236 MW per container = 544.84 MW total). It is not known if Regional Planning was aware that the actual capacity of the equipment that was approved by the site plan was 545 MW rather than the 400 MW represented to the public.

Figure 1:

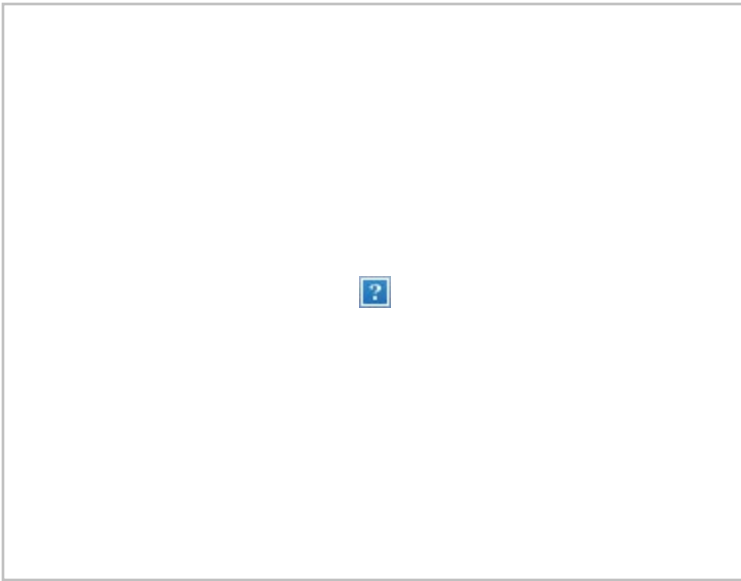
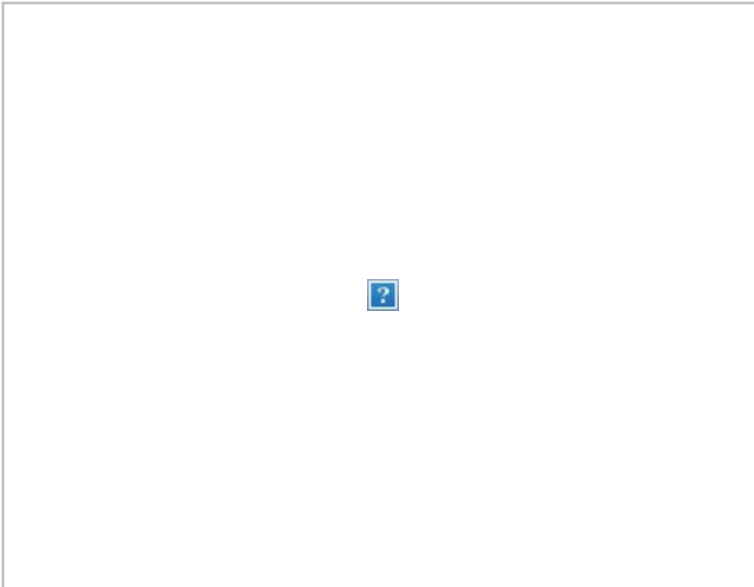


Figure 2:



Hecate has a proven track record of misrepresenting the facts of the Humidor project to County agencies and to the Department of Regional Planning in particular. For instance, Regional Planning approved the original site plan in 2022 based on Hecate's assurance that the project was located entirely on industrially zoned property; the residents of Acton had to go to great lengths to prove to Regional Planning staff that the project was not limited to just industrially zoned property and that it extended into agriculturally zoned land as well. It was only after this significant community effort that Regional Planning rescinded the 2022 approval and informed the Community of Acton that the Humidor BESS would undergo the Conditional Use Permit process; unfortunately, this did not occur.

The new realization that the actual capacity of the approved Humidor BESS project is more

than half a gigawatt is the latest in a string of misrepresentations and mischaracterizations that have been uncovered regarding the Humidor Project. More importantly, this proves beyond any doubt that the Humidor Project is nothing like a distribution substation because the capacity of a distribution substation is typically less than 100 MW (although in some rare instances, they can approach 200 MW). This is because utility planning standards do not accommodate distribution substations with capacities exceeding 500 MW (or even 400 MW) because the risk to load is too great (given that a mishap would result in the loss of electrical service to an unacceptably high number of customers). These material facts conclusively demonstrate that Regional Planning erred in applying "Interpretation 2021-03" to approve the Humidor BESS as a "distribution substation", and I present them to you based on my nearly 20 years of experience in participating in electrical proceedings before the CPUC and the FERC which involved extensive electrical system analyses and expert witness testimony.

Based on these facts, I request that Regional Planning rescind the Humidor BESS approval that was issued on August 1, 2024.

Respectfully submitted;

Jacqueline Ayer, Director

Save Our Rural Town

From: [Jacqueline Ayer](#)
To: [Amy J. Bodek](#)
Cc: [Barger, Kathryn](#); [Saraiya, Anish](#)
Subject: The Humidor BESS capacity is actually 545 MW
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:33:51 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Director Bodek;

When the Humidor BESS site plan was approved on August 1, 2024, Regional Planning represented to the public that the capacity of the facility was 400 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 1 below). However, the equipment and facilities that Regional Planning *actually* approved on the site plan is a **545 MW** BESS consisting of 440 battery containers in which each container has a generation capacity of 1.236 MW (see highlighted portion in Figure 2 below, and note that 440 containers x 1.236 MW per container = 544.84 MW total). It is not known if Regional Planning was aware that the actual capacity of the equipment that was approved by the site plan was 545 MW rather than the 400 MW represented to the public.

Figure 1:

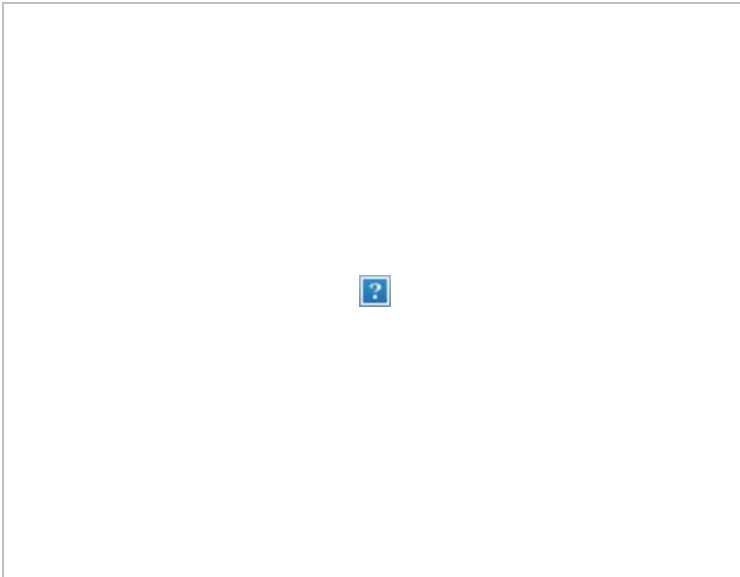
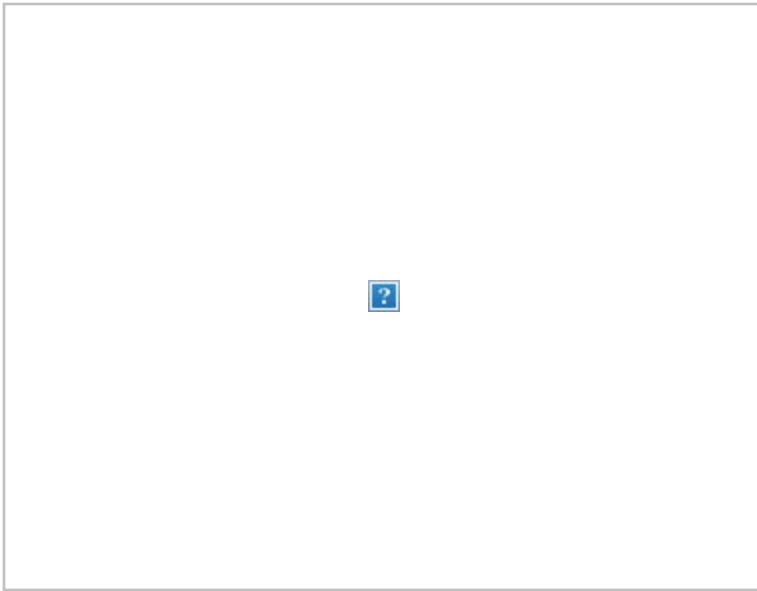


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Hecate has a proven track record of misrepresenting the facts of the Humidor project to County agencies and to the Department of Regional Planning in particular. For instance, Regional Planning approved the original site plan in 2022 based on Hecate's assurance that the project was located entirely on industrially zoned property; the residents of Acton had to go to great lengths to prove to Regional Planning staff that the project was not limited to just industrially zoned property and that it extended into agriculturally zoned land as well. It was only after this significant community effort that Regional Planning rescinded the 2022 approval and informed the Community of Acton that the Humidor BESS would undergo the Conditional Use Permit process; unfortunately, this did not occur.

The new realization that the actual capacity of the approved Humidor BESS project is more than half a gigawatt is the latest in a string of misrepresentations and mischaracterizations that have been uncovered regarding the Humidor Project. More importantly, this proves beyond any doubt that the Humidor Project is nothing like a distribution substation because the capacity of a distribution substation is typically less than 100 MW (although in some rare instances, they can approach 200 MW). This is because utility planning standards do not accommodate distribution substations with capacities exceeding 500 MW (or even 400 MW) because the risk to load is too great (given that a mishap would result in the loss of electrical service to an unacceptably high number of customers). These material facts conclusively demonstrate that Regional Planning erred in applying "Interpretation 2021-03" to approve the Humidor BESS as a "distribution substation", and I present them to you based on my nearly 20 years of experience in participating in electrical proceedings before the CPUC and the FERC which involved extensive electrical system analyses and expert witness testimony.

Based on these facts, I request that Regional Planning rescind the Humidor BESS approval that was issued on August 1, 2024.

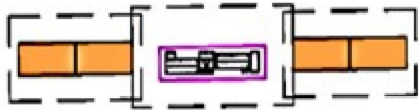
Respectfully submitted;

Jacqueline Ayer, Director

Save Our Rural Town

LEGEND

PROJECT AREA THIS PAGE: 523,493 SQFT, 12.018 ACRES



4-LITHIUM IRON PHOSHPATE (LFP) BATTERY CONTAINERS

(1236kW/ 5365kWh PER BATTERY)

WITH 2 INVERTERS AND 34.5KV GSU

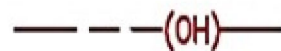
QTY THIS PAGE: 110 (TOTAL BATTERY CONTAINERS: 440)



PROPOSED SITE FENCE



PROPOSED ROAD EDGES



PROPOSED OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL



PROPOSED UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL



ROAD CENTERLINE



RETAINING WALL



8' MASONRY WALL



PROPERTY LINES AND ZONING DEMARCATION

From: [Janine Regoli](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:22:44 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I would like to let it be known that I am opposed to the Bess project being developed in Acton.
First and foremost is the Safety of our families and livestock.
I could go on but the Safety risk alone should be enough to not approve this.
I really appreciate your time.
Janine Regoli

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jennifer](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:50:07 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

There is nothing good about this project being built in Acton right near homes and the 14 freeway. You keep fighting to keep sex offenders from being sent to AV, so fight for us. We are in a fire zone and we do not need this project here. It can be built somewhere else that's not near homes or a freeway that is heavily used.

Thank you,

Newly retired Westside Union School District teacher and Mother of Chadd & Branden Owen (sons of Sgt. Steve Owen),

Jennifer Taylor

From: [Jennifer Wallace](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Concerned Acton resident
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 5:06:39 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Kathryn Barger,

I am really worried about the proposed battery site that is to be built in Acton. There are a slew of potential hazards and risks if it happens-- fires, potential environmental and air quality problems that could lead to serious issues for residents. Just the fire risk alone is very concerning. We are considered a very high risk area and can have rather wicked Santa Ana winds, especially in the fall and winter. Most all residents have already lost their fire insurance plans and had to go to the CA fair plan. Obviously, if we can't be insured it is because of the extreme risk. We cannot put a potential flammable hazard here. Acton also runs along the San Andreas fault. What would happen if we had a large earthquake?

I am raising my three young children here. Please don't let them do this.

Can something like this be built in the middle of the desert, away from people and properties? It is not worth the risk.

I grew up in West Hills, CA. It was near the old Rocketdyne site at the Santa Susana Field Laboratory. While I realize these are two very different things. I personally know people that have gotten cancer from growing up there. In fact, one of my elementary and junior high school friend's lost his 5 year old daughter to cancer from the long term exposure to the harmful chemicals there.

I hope you can appreciate and understand why I do not want a potential toxic and dangerous hazard going near me or my family (not to mention any other family).

Thank you!

Jennifer Wallace

From: [Jill Agui](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Bess
Date: Saturday, October 12, 2024 8:10:25 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I have been a resident of Acton, California for over twenty years . I am opposed to having a storage of lithium batteries In our community. They explode and don't belong here!! I have been seeing the media about several explosions with these batteries. They do not belong here in Acton. Kathryn Barger! You wouldn't want them in your community either!!

Roberto Aguilar

From: [Jillian Liberman](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:51:06 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger,

Please stand with the Acton residents in opposition of the Hecate Grid Humidor Storage Facility and ALL battery storage facilities in high fire risk areas. The Hecate BESS facility is a massive threat to the safety of not just our small rural community in Acton, but to the Palmdale, Santa Clarita, and La Crescenta regions as well.

The fire risk these storage facilities pose is not just theoretical, it is happening with more frequency as we see fires such as the one that shut down the freeway in the greater LA area earlier last week. We do not have the luxuries of swift emergency response as cities do and our region is highly flammable with limited escape routes to main roads.

Many of the BESS facilities proposed in our area are on routes with only one main access road, which threatens the safety of both our residents and first responders. Is Acton- Agua Dulce going to be the next Paradise/ Camp fire disaster? Because that is what is at stake.

The Hecate storage site also poses an environmental safety hazard in numerous ways. The aquifer in which most Acton residents get their water from, whether that is trucked in or directly from wells, is extremely close to the proposed site in East Acton. Water is a human right in the state of California, and this facility threatens access to a reliable and safe water source in a regularly drought stricken area. If a major earthquake along the San Andreas fault that is mere miles from the proposed site damages the storage facility, that site becomes a superfund after it catches fire. The groundwater will be contaminated and we will have a major environmental disaster zone along an extremely important corridor in the high desert that connects the whole of the high desert to Los Angeles and San Bernardino County via Angeles Crest Highway, Sierra Highway, Pearblossom Highway and the 14 freeway. If just one of these access routes are cut off due to disaster or construction of this site, the livelihoods of the residents- your constituents, will deeply affect them economically and environmentally. Please oppose this site and all sites in the area.

Thank you,
Jillian Liberman

From: [Jim Klosterman](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Batteries
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 9:58:37 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To Kathryn Barger,
Re agenda item #53

Hecate grid humidifier storage 1 LLC proprietary
Electrical transmission franchise

There are a lot of safety issues regarding batteries. They are causing so many fires and Acton is in a high fire danger area. Please Halt the development of the battery plant in Acton.

Mary Klosterman
James Klosterman
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Joan Millar](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 11:22:15 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To the honorable Supervisor Badger,

We are strongly opposed to the Humidor BESS project being developed in Acton. It is not safe to store lithium ion batteries in a residential community. These batteries are volatile and are fires ignited by them are regularly reported in the news. A fire at this facility would be catastrophic, highly probable of causing a runaway event igniting adjacent batteries which cannot be extinguished by water. It would burn for days if not weeks emitting toxic fumes in our community and potentially polluting the ground water, our drinking water. There are additional safety concerns including fire spreading in the community, closure of the 14 freeway and metro link and so much more.

While it may be convenient to have a BESS facility in such close proximity to the Vincent Substation. It is undoubtedly a cost saving measure, but at what cost? The cost of human health and lives? We respectfully ask you and the other supervisors to put people first. Put the health and well being of your constituents above dollars. This facility can be located elsewhere far from residential communities and transmission lines (albeit with a hefty price tag) to connect to the Vincent or another substation. Somehow we can always find money for what we value. I respectfully ask you to oppose the Humidor BESS project being developed in Acton and value people over dollars.

Sincerely,

Mike and Joan Millar
Acton residents for 31 years

From: [Joanne Ulbrich](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:40:01 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am very concerned about the fact that a vote is coming up for a battery Storage location to be placed in my neighborhood in Acton, CA. We moved to this small rural community to get away from the harmful affects of living in the city. To live in an area that is safe from crime, environmental factors, etc. the safety issues that go along with this project. We made sacrifices to be here and live a rural life. We live in a very high fire district, pay extremely high insurance premiums, and are meticulous at clearing brush because of the fire danger. Seems like placing the humidor in our small town heightens this danger. Many people are already having a hard time finding a company to cover their insurance many carriers are already canceling policies.

I am sure you are aware of the extra effort and resources the County will endure to mitigate fires that do occur. Even an electrical vehicle fire takes a lot. Imagine a whole facility full of these dangerous batteries. It is terrifying. I encourage you to support the residents of Acton and vote NO!!!!

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,

Joanne Ulbrich

From: [John Farrar](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Humidor BESS proposal
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:21:25 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

Firstly, permit me to compliment you for all you've done and continue to do for our District's homeowners, business and residents. Thank YOU very much! I would also like to recognize and thank Chuck Bostwick for all he has been able to accomplish in our community. It seems he is always available for a phone call or email to assist. He is a great asset to us all!

Kathryn, regarding this Humidor BESS project/proposal, I am pleading with you to vote against it in the upcoming Board meeting. It is terribly unsafe in our community for a large variety of reasons, including, but not limited to, its projected location in a high fire risk area in the Vincent Hill area. Further, as I am certain you are aware, the extreme fire danger created by this installation must be recognized. These batteries are an extreme threat and fires that emanate from them are nearly impossible to extinguish. What a horrific threat to Acton and surrounding communities! Additionally, the heavy winds that often blow through this highway 14 Corridor, make this threat even more deadly.

Let's not forget the San Andreas Fault passes nearby as well and carries with it the huge prospect of "The Big One"... the monstrous earthquake that could occur at any time.

Further, Highway 14 is a critically important exit route for us as well as the massive population of Los Angeles County in the event of any major disaster. It absolutely must remain open for passage for the safety of our locals as well the broader general population in the region. If this proposed BESS installation explodes, Highway 14 will very likely be severely impacted. There is no alternative route through the area.

Please Kathryn, vote against this horrific BESS proposal! Yes, there is a need for it, but absolutely not in this location with all its inherent issues of fire, earthquake, proximity to thriving communities, critically important highways, etc. This facility should be built out in an open area far away from fire risk zones, critically important access thoroughfares, etc. Locations that come to mind include areas of open desert of which there are many not very far away.

Katheryn, we support and love you and are so appreciative of all you've done as you care deeply about all of us. I'm certain there are thousands of us and even more who are pleading with you to bring this Humidor project to a halt in or anywhere near our homes and businesses. BESS must be stopped!

My sincerest thank you and my vote of appreciation for all you've done to help keep our communities safe and a great place to live and raise our families. Thank YOU!

Best regards!

John

John Farrar
32935 Poppy Lane
Acton, CA 93510
(661) 212-2559
jefarrar2@gmail.com

From: [John HAYWARD](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Bess
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:58:48 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please don't do this to our community.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [John Sisco](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Bess Project
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 7:07:14 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please no battery project in Acton. Residential neighborhood. Fire area!!!
John Sisco
Acton Resident

From: [Jorge Meneses](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: About Hummidor BESS agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:40:25 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger,

I wanted to take a few minutes to write to you. I understand that the board of supervisors will be discussing intent to adopt the franchise agreement for this project. I own property in the vicinity of the proposed location and I am very concerned about the SAFETY RISKS that this project will bring to the community. This is a HIGH FIRE RISK AREA. I ask that you please take into consideration that the benefits from building this project do not outweigh the potential disastrous outcome if something was to go wrong at this facility. I and many of our neighbors OPPOSE this project and we ask that you please STOP them from going forward with this.

From: [joseph whiteley](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:22:32 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Kathryn,

The proposed site for the BESS Humidor Project in Acton is NOT the right decision. Battery projects are good as long as they are in the PROPER AREA. And this is not. It is located in a Class 4 Fire Zone and only 200 feet from the hillside off Angeles Forrest Highway.

If a fire was to break out and it will eventually, you will be taking out valuable property and homes in the area.

It will also shut down the 14 freeway, Angeles Forrest Highway, Metrolink train, Pearblossom Highway.

I urge you to reconsider this and take proper Action. You are supposed to represent your local community not downtown L.A.

Don't let the greed for county money impair the right thing to do.

I don't want you to look back a few years from now and say to yourself " I made the wrong Decision"

Concerned Resident
Joe Whiteley
1230 Soledad Pass Rd
Acton, CA.

OH by the way I just received a letter a few days ago they cancelled my home owners Insurance for the second time.

From: [K C](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Fwd: STOP THE HUMIDOR BESS!!!
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:16:34 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I forgot to mention this in my email. This is regarding:

AGENDA ITEM #53
Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Begin forwarded message:

From: K C <just4kcoughlin@gmail.com>
Date: October 7, 2024 at 2:21:21 PM PDT
To: Kathryn Barger <kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov>
Subject: STOP THE HUMIDOR BESS!!!

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I ask that you please hear what your Acton constituents are trying to say to you!
Please STOP the Hecate Humidor BESS project proposed for Acton!!! And that
also goes for any other projects coming down the pipeline.

I am very much opposed to this project. Acton is already a very high fire risk
area. This would be a HUGE SAFETY RISK for our area. It terrifies me that we
will become the next Paradise with our whole town burning down! I'm sure you
have seen plenty of media coverage on lithium battery fires and the devastation
they can create. This BESS facility should not be located in our Acton area,
PERIOD! It is NOT SAFE! PLEASE, PLEASE STOP THIS FROM
HAPPENING!!!

Our town is in your hands - please don't let us down!!

Thank you for your time!

Kathy Coughlin
(Acton Resident)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [K.C](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: STOP THE HUMIDOR BESS!!!
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:21:31 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I ask that you please hear what your Acton constituents are trying to say to you! Please STOP the Hecate Humidor BESS project proposed for Acton!!! And that also goes for any other projects coming down the pipeline.

I am very much opposed to this project. Acton is already a very high fire risk area. This would be a HUGE SAFETY RISK for our area. It terrifies me that we will become the next Paradise with our whole town burning down! I'm sure you have seen plenty of media coverage on lithium battery fires and the devastation they can create. This BESS facility should not be located in our Acton area, PERIOD! It is NOT SAFE! PLEASE, PLEASE STOP THIS FROM HAPPENING!!!

Our town is in your hands - please don't let us down!!

Thank you for your time!

Kathy Coughlin
(Acton Resident)

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kaisa Akerlund](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53 - opposing the Hecate Grid Humidor Storage
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 11:56:23 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Reference:

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Ms. Barger,

I am a constituent. My mother is too, 90 years old. This is really important to me and my neighbors. It truly is a matter of life and death.

I don't think anyone would vote for particular this location, so why can't this be built somewhere out in the desert, far away from homes and farms?

Please fight for the residents of Acton and Agua Dulce who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that have shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town.

Did you know....

.....this is a high fire area, we are having so much trouble getting fire insurance, I can only imagine how the high-fire risk of this place will affect our chances of getting any fire insurance at all in the future.

.....the aqueduct passes through here?

.....we are known for our fierce Santa Ana winds here?

.....the San Andreas fault is very near here?

.....the only freeway and route from Santa Clarita to Mohave passes though here?

.....there are houses very nearby that have wells for their drinking water and livestock? You already know how lithium fires effect ground water!!

.....there is another Edison transfer station in Mohave where this dangerous battery storage could be placed?

.....the Metrolink train station is very close by, many people rely on this transportation to and from work every day.

Please oppose and fight this for our little, rural town, we really need your help and support.

Thank you,
Kaisa Akerlund

From: [Kari Owens](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Strongly opposed to Humidor Bess Project
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 5:49:57 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am writing to give my strong opposition to the Acton Humidor Bess proposal.

I grew up in, and currently reside in the community. With our high winds and high heat indexes, this community is not a good fit for this type of project.

My information is included to prove my residency. Please do not share my information with others.

Karina Owens
3727 Smith Ave
Sent from my iPad

From: [Kathleen Hanson](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Bass project
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 6:56:41 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am opposed to this project being in our community. We are near the San sandra's fault line and in a high. fire danger area.

Kathleen Hanson
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kathleen Trinity](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Lithium Battery Storage Facility in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 7:51:21 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I oppose the proposed lithium battery storage facility in Acton. The Acton community endured the horrible Station Fire several years ago. As you know we have dry chaparral much of the year and a steady flow of winds off and on all year long. A lithium facility in our community is another wildfire waiting to happen, regardless of brush clearance and other precautions. There have been numerous lithium explosions throughout the country.

Why is it that Acton is always chosen for utility infrastructure? We are an equestrian and semirural community, not an industrial park. We live here, adjacent to the San Gabriel National Monument, so that we can appreciate and protect our natural surroundings. A lithium facility does not belong here, but in some kind of industrial park or other utility center.

Thank you.

Kathleen Trinity
Acton Resident since 2004

From: [Kathy Fairbrother](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 -- Hecate Grid Humidor Storage -- Opposition
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:41:01 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Ms. Barger

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that have shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town.

Did you know....

.....this is a high fire area, we are having so much trouble getting fire insurance, I can only imagine how the high-fire risk of this place will affect our chances of getting any fire insurance at all in the future.

.....the aqueduct passes through here?

.....we are know for our fierce Santa Ana winds here?

.....the San Andreas fault is very near here?

.....the only freeway and route from Santa Clarita to Mohave passes though here?

.....there are houses very nearby that have wells for their drinking water and livestock? You already know how lithium fires effect ground water!!

.....there is another Edison transfer station in Mohave where this dangerous battery storage could be placed?

.....the Metrolink train station is very close by, many people rely on this transportation to and from work every day.

.....as the crow flies, this facility will be only 2 miles from my house !! Horrifying !!

.....Newsom and his thrill ride to be the first in everything needs to put this in his own back yard, not ours.

Please oppose and fight this for our little, rural town, we need you help and support.

Thank you,

Kathy and Matt Fairbrother
Acton, CA

From: [KATIE HALE](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53-Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:31:16 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Ms Barger-

As residents of Acton, Ca, we are asking that you do not approve the lithium ion batteries and BESS projects planned by multiple developers in our area.

There have been many communications about this topic to you, your staff and your Board in the forms of meetings, letters, calls, emails, and petitions. The media coverage from around the world about serious damage, destruction, injury and death have been reported about the dangers caused by lithium ion batteries. The damage related to fires, groundwater contamination and hazards to the air we breathe are all concerns.

These batteries in their current form are used in many instruments, and the dangers related to their potential fires are the last thing an area such as Acton needs. The quantity of these batteries planned for the Acton area BESS facilities are unthinkable!! This is an area with extreme fire risk already. Potential fire suppression would be limited due to the lack of ability to extinguish these fires, our shortage of emergency responders, limited evacuation routes for residents and animals, and the BESS developers surprising lack of admission to the potential dangers!!

It is perplexing that the BESS facilities were ever considered for Acton. Their presence violates the Acton general plan and the CEQA guidelines.

Perhaps after more research is done about safer alternatives to lithium ion batteries as a way to provide clean energy, a more suitable location could be determined...closer to the portion of Los Angeles for which you are endeavoring to provide energy.

Pls seriously consider the safety of your Acton residents, and any other areas in your district that are considering this technology.

We wish you the best in the challenges of your position/
David and Kathleen Hale

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Kelly Bolan](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:22:48 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Mrs. Barger,

I am writing to express my opposition to the adoption of the franchise agreement for the Humidor Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) transmission line in Acton. My primary concern is the significant safety risks associated with large-scale battery storage facilities, particularly the heightened fire hazards that have been documented in similar projects. The potential for fire poses a severe threat to our small community, which has limited access routes and emergency response capabilities. In a town like Acton, with just one major access point, such risks could have disastrous consequences, especially for homeowners with animals who would face difficulties during evacuation.

The energy storage industry has seen numerous incidents of fires at battery storage facilities, leading to growing concerns about the sufficiency of local firefighting resources and preparedness to manage such emergencies. These facilities are known to require specialized firefighting equipment and techniques that may be beyond the capabilities of our local fire station, further increasing the risk to both people and property.

Additionally, the scale of the Humidor project—projected to store hundreds of megawatts of energy—raises questions about its suitability for a rural community. The proposed high-voltage transmission lines and the associated conversion of open space into industrial infrastructure provide no direct benefit to the local community. Instead, the electricity generated would serve larger urban areas, leaving Acton to bear the risks without any clear advantages.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this project in light of these concerns, prioritizing the safety and well-being of our community.

Sincerely,
Kelly Bolan
Concerned Acton Homeowner

From: [Kevin Marten](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:07:58 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I'm writing to you on behalf of myself and my family. We have lived in Acton for over 30 years and we are opposed to this BESS project being developed in our community!

As you're aware, this project poses numerous health, fire, and safety risks. We already live in a high fire severity zone and many residents struggle to insure our homes without spending an arm and a leg to do so.

Additionally, many residents are on private wells, which could easily become contaminated in the event of a fire since it is NOT possible to contain all of the water that'd be used.

We strongly oppose this project and urge you to support us, your constituents, in this fight against this project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

The Martens

Please excuse brevity and typos. Sent from my iPhone

From: [KIMBERLY DWIGHT](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS mess
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:50:08 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Have you no concern for our safety?

I'm very much opposed to the idea of a lithium battery storage facility in Acton. This is a rural community, primarily equestrian. Water is scarce and wells are insufficient as it is.

A fire from this would be devastating. There's so much brush in our desert that would spread to neighboring homes that are deliberately far apart.

We've seen the damage on the Vincent Thomas bridge last month. They had easy access to water. We don't.

Kimberly Dwight

From: [Kristen James](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: I OPPOSE this HUMIDOR BESS project and therefore DO NOT SUPPORT the adoption of the Franchise Agreement
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 9:23:04 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I OPPOSE this HUMIDOR
BESS project and therefore DO NOT
SUPPORT the adoption of the Franchise
Agreement

Acton is NO place to have a battery storage. It is an extremely high fire risk area, most home owners are getting dropped from their insurance companies because of the risk of covering them in case of a fire. HOW IS THIS STORAGE FACILITY A GOOD IDEA HERE?

NO ONE SUPPORTS THIS. Please do something about this issue, unlike the 300 homes being built by the Russians. Nothing is being done about that. There still a chance to stop this!

From: [Kristine White](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:22:20 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

To Kathryn Barger:

RE: AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

I vehemently oppose the proposed Humidor or Hecate BESS being developed in Acton, as well as any other BESS being developed in Acton or Agua Dulce. Our communities are located in extreme fire danger areas; there are many fires here every year. The hot, dry, Santa Ana winds in some places here (including the proposed locations of these projects) reach hurricane force speeds. It is reckless to even consider permitting any BESS in these communities.

In addition to the insane fire hazard, there are risks of contaminating our well water and of toxic fumes. The BESS would be located next to residents and properties with many animals as well as our only safe evacuation routes: the 14 freeway and Sierra Highway.

DO NOT ALLOW ANY BESS IN OUR COMMUNITIES. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATH AND DESTRUCTION THAT OCCUR AS A RESULT.

Sincerely,

Kristine White

From: [laneycl](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS in Acton
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 7:02:15 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I Do NOT support any business involved with BESS in Acton. There are incidents almost once a week of some kind involving a Lithium ion battery fire somewhere in the US. Any kind of fire from BESS in Acton would be devastating because of fire pollution with air quality n underground water and land and building destruction.

Please consider these factors.
I do Not support Bess in Acton.

Thank you.
Laney Clevenger White

Sent from my Galaxy

From: laneycl@ca.rr.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 7:01:51 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

RE AGENDA#53
Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC
Proprietary ElectricalTransmission Franchise

I am so opposed to the development of this project in my town of Acton. Safety considerations should be a TOP priority. We are in a high fire zone. If a battery goes into thermal runaway, it will pollute our air, pollute our water table, possibly destroy our beautiful town. There's plenty of publicity about BESS, lithium-ion batteries catching fire in cars, trucks, small e-vehicles, shutting down freeways, bridges, burning down houses, firemen do not properly know how to extinguish these battery fires...they can't, they just have to let them burn. Please please do not approve this Agenda #53. Protect our town, Acton, from possible danger. I AM OPPOSED TO THIS.

Laney Clevenger
2848 Calmgarden Rd
Acton CA 93510

From: [Larry Sanderson](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor storage
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:43:54 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger,

Please oppose Agenda item 53 Hecate Grid Humidor storage1 LLC Franchise Agreement transmission line.

The recent history Lithium Battery storage issues has proven that this installation is a large risk to the community and should not continue

In the proposes site.

One battery fire could shutdown access to the Antelope Valley for days or weeks as one battery fire did to:

The 15 freeway to Las Vegas

The I80 freeway to Tahoe

A fire could also pollute the Santa Clarita River aquifer if water or fire retardant is used on the fire. The technology is not available to effectively fight these fires

The risk to the Acton community is enormous with the risk of evacuation and removal of all animals in a emergency.

Thank You,

Connie and Larry Sanderson

From: [Laura S](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: NO Hecate Grid Humidor Storage
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 11:39:51 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am strongly opposed to the BESS project being developed in our community of Acton, California!!

It would endanger too many lives and lower our property values.

Thanks for all you do!

Laura Skorich
(661) 305-3010

3651 Soledad Canyon Road
Acton, California 93510

From: [leonardo murillo](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Opposition to Agenda Item #53 - Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:47:58 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the BESS project proposed in Acton under Agenda Item #53. My primary concern is safety, particularly the potential fire hazards and environmental risks posed by lithium-ion battery storage in our community.

This project does not align with Acton's rural character and poses unnecessary risks to our residents.

I urge you to vote against this franchise agreement.

From: [Lisa Klein](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS plant objection - Acton!
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:25:26 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town. We personally have been affected by a battery fire at our home so this really tells me that a volatile facility like this has no place in LA County.

Please oppose and fight this!

Lisa Klein

From: [Lisa Smith](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:03:48 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Honorable Supervisor Barger,

I am strongly opposed to this BESS project being developed in our community of Acton! The numerous environmental and water issues surrounding BESS will have far reaching affects for generations to come. The dangers of BESS involving fires and fire suppression problems are an immediate safety concern for all.

Sincerely,

Lisa and Tim Smith
Property Owners on Fairlane Rd in Acton

From: [LM Vath](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Acton BESS project
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:11:12 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Lithium battery technology is a safety disaster and antiquated design. Please don't allow old junk shrouded in political rhetoric to play out in Acton. Science is doesn't not support the efficacy of the current design. Science proves this tech application is volatile. Lithium mining is a humanitarian disgrace. Save face and send the project back the drawing board with a higher standard in all regards.

Thank you,
LV Vath.

From: [Luanne Emery](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Hectate Humidor opposition
Date: Monday, October 14, 2024 7:45:09 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Letter OPPOSING the Hecate Humidor LLC transmission line Franchise Agreement Ordinance
Agenda item 53

Please please please do not allow this BESS facility to go in! It will present way too many negative issues to the environment and communities of Acton as well S the entire Santa Clarita Valley. Not only are these facilities dangerous as far as Fire and runaway explosion, they also present potential contamination to our air & water supply if there is any issue that arises at the facility.

The Canyon Country BESS facility is already being installed on the banks of the Santa Clara river. It's a dangerous situation as is. No other facilities should be allowed in these fire zones or on the banks of our waterways.

Please note that there have been numerous incidents involving these lithium ion batteries on our roadways, on cargo ships, and at these facilities. We need to use safer means - which do exist. Don't listen to their sales persons who lie about the dangers, in the name of making the all mighty dollar their motive to sell their dangerous facilities. Please do your investigation, your homework and protect the people in our communities and the environment from future contamination and distraction from these potentially very hazardous facilities. These batteries are more dangerous than they are helpful.

Sincerely,
Luanne Emery
Concerned Resident

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Lynn Colby-Galloway](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 9:42:27 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please protect your constituents & do not vote for this project! The community of Acton & the surrounding area does not deserve to be exposed to the fire hazard danger this project would inflict on the community.

From: [LYNN DOYLE](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:11:31 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor, Barger

I am writing this to oppose the lithium battery project proposed for Acton California. We live in a high fire area and this would be devastating to our community if a fire were to ever break out. I urge you to please vote no on this proposal

Thank you,

Lynn Doyle

(Acton Viter

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Izorell](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:32:44 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Agenda Item #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise.

Dear Ms. Barger,

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town. Please oppose and fight this!

Best regards,
Leo Orellana
Acton Resident

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [macias91390](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:35:19 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I have lived in the area almost 45 years. Please help us to stay safe!

Sent from my Galaxy

From: [Marcia Lewis](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Electric battery storage
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:52:43 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please vote NO against electric battery storage in Acton, California, as it is dangerous, volatile and toxic to humans, pets, farm animals & wildlife, as well as to the water tables and land in Acton, California and surrounding areas. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marcia Lewis
Acton Resident

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Marian](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [Ruth Brock](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 8:20:48 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Re: Agenda item number 53
Hecate grid humidor storage 1LLC.
Proprietary electrical transmission franchise

Dear Supervisor Barger,

You should be familiar with this issue by now. The Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC is NOT safe for Acton, Agua Dulce, or adjacent areas. It should be clear to everyone that the dangers outweigh any expected benefits. I urge you to oppose and reject this project. The mountain communities of LA county are vulnerable to an array of natural hazards, fire above all. With global warming this hazard is increasing. It would be shortsighted to even consider a project like the Humidor Storage Facility for such a vulnerable, yet vital part of LA County.

With gratitude for your service and concern for the citizens of unincorporated LA county,

Marian Katz
10203 Vista Del Sol
Agua Dulce, CA 91390

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mark Fairbrother](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: [SUSPECTED SPAM]AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:34:19 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission

Supervisor Barger

I am strongly opposed to this BESS project.

I live in Acton and these facilities seem way too dangerous to have in areas that are prone to high heat, high winds and wildfires.

There have been many battery related fires just this year to consider placing this facility so close to residential areas.

Please help keep these kind of facilities away from Acton.

Thank you.

Mark Fairbrother
Acton, CA.

From: [Mark Stocks](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Helcate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:14:01 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

My wife and I are residents of Acton and have lived in the area over 30 years, We both come from law enforcement backgrounds and have seen tragic circumstances unfold. I myself have expertise in wildland fires as I was an Arson Investigator. We are so concerned about the size and location of lithium storage that is being proposed, that we have started to look for a new home out of state. We have done extensive research and it is our opinion based on recent events around the U.S. and world that eventually this is a disaster waiting to happen. Lithium produces it's own heat and does not need fuel to ignite and therefore is quite dangerous in large capacity as this one would be. An ignition fire of a storage facility would have great impact for years on the residents of Acton and surrounding areas. Because of the proposed location it would cut off access from Antelope Valley from the I-14 freeway as well as the Metro Link. We need help and at this point we feel all alone. Please do not allow this storage facility to proceed forward.

Sincerely,

Mark Stocks
Acton resident

From: marydawson737
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Battery site in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:10:25 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town. Please oppose and fight this!

Sincerely,

Mary Dawson

From: [Matt Fairbrother](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 -- Hecate Grid Humidor Storage -- Opposition
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:57:53 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Ms. Barger

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that have shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town.

Did you know....

.....this is a high fire area, we are having so much trouble getting fire insurance, I can only imagine how the high-fire risk of this place will affect our chances of getting any fire insurance at all in the future.

.....the aqueduct passes through here?

.....we are known for our fierce Santa Ana winds here?

.....the San Andreas fault is very near here?

.....the only freeway and route from Santa Clarita to Mohave passes though here?

.....there are houses very nearby that have wells for their drinking water and livestock? You already know how lithium fires effect ground water!!

.....there is another Edison transfer station in Mohave where this dangerous battery storage could be placed?

.....the Metrolink train station is very close by, many people rely on this transportation to and from work every day.

.....as the crow flies, this facility will be only 2 miles from my house !! Horrifying !!

.....Newsom and his thrill ride to be the first in everything needs to put this in his own back yard, not ours.

.....I've read that it takes a few hours for firemen to put out a Tesla car fire.

Please oppose and fight this for our little, rural town, we need you help and support.

Thank you,

Matt Fairbrother

From: [Meghan Valenti](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:11:40 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Mrs. Barger,

As an Acton resident, I am extremely concerned about the safety of the Hecate project. I am sure you have already heard of the dangers lithium ion battery storage pose in a high fire danger and watershed area. Acton is an incredibly inappropriate site for such a hazardous energy project like Hecate.

Respectfully,
Meghan Valenti
Acton, CA

From: [Michael Boggs](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:54:12 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Supervisor Barger

I am opposed to this BESS project being developed in the community of Acton! This project is adjacent to my property, I rely on well water and feel if there is an incident the ground water will become contaminated. Fire insurance is getting harder to find and this might be the final straw for our insurance to get canceled. I also feel this will have a very negative effect on property values. We will not feel safe any longer living here. Please do not allow this to go forward

Sincerely

Michael & Susette Boggs
33830 Angeles Forest Hwy
Palmdale Ca, 93550

From: [MIKE GOODNIGHT](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Fwd: Agenda item #53 Hecate Humidor Storage
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:28:14 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: MIKE GOODNIGHT <mgoodn6044@aol.com>
Date: October 7, 2024 at 12:39:06 PM PDT
To: kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov
Cc: Mike Goodnight <d.mike.goodnight@gmail.com>
Subject: Agenda item #53 Hecate Humidor Storage

Dear Ms Barger

We r 30 year residents of Acton and are highly opposed to the Hecate Project that is proposed for our area. These BESS facilities have no place in high fire, populated areas. This area has numerous ranches with large amounts of live stock some dog kennels, animal sanctuaries etc. as well as many populated neighborhoods as well. This is Also projected to be built in a highly traveled corridor to and from the AV. If this BESS were allowed to proceed and a thermal runaway fire were to develop it would shut down the 14 fwy, pearblossom Hwy, Sierra Hwy, Angeles Forrest Hwy, Soledad cyn rd and the metro link rail as well. It would put a stop all travel both personal and commercial through this area. To add insult to injury they r also planning the high speed rail through this area. These BESS facilities r suppose to be sensitive to vibration. So it makes even less sense to place it a short distance from the San Andreas fault as well as railway tracks and a highway. We would appreciate your support in stopping this project through our area and endangering the lives of the residents of Acton, Agua Dulce and the antelope valley. This project would be located over our aquafier that supplies the water to everyone on a well and it runs all the way to the Santa Clarita valley. To pollute this valuable underground water supply is irresponsible to say the least. There are a lot of serious reasons that this project should not proceed and should be stopped. The project is of no benefit to our area. These BESS Projects belong further out in open land away from the public. Please support our objection to this project and do what's right for the people that have supported u and voted u into Office.

Thank you,
Elaine Goodnight
2133 1/2 W. Carson Mesa Rd
Acton,ca

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Mike Granillo](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Humidor BESS
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 7:29:05 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Kathryn

Please Vote No On

**AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1
LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise**

**We are Just Looking For Trouble , when they fail and
it will , a lot of live will be impacted.**

**Thank You
Mike Granillo**

From: [Mike Ralphs](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:56:50 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am opposed to this BESS project being developed in our community of Acton, mainly because of the danger of thermal runaway, leading to toxic gases and the possibility of groundwater contamination.

Thank you,

Michael Ralphs resident of Acton.

From: [MYTRNOW](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage Facility
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:14:59 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Ms. Barger,

I am writing to you this afternoon to ask you to deny this Hecate Grid Facility. Here in Acton , we do not want this here it has zero benefits for us and all the hazardous risks . Our biggest concern is Safety.

Safety for our lives
Safety for our homes
Safety for our children
Safety for our animals
Safety for our life time investment of our homes and property.

I live within a very short distance of this nightmare. Not if ,but when a fire occurs it will shut the town of Acton down and no through roads in or out of here to Santa Clarita, Pasadena or Antelope Valley. The 14 freeway , Angeles Forest Highway, Sierra Highway and Soledad Canyon Rd. Those are the only roadsall will be shut down , along with Metro-link services. I'm not being dramatic , I am being realistic and practical. It will happen.
Our home owners insurance is already at an all time high, I cannot imagine what the effects of living this close to this fire storm toxic plant will do to my rates and those of others close by.
Acton needs you, we have all voted for you in the past , you are an amazing leader . Please do what's right for our small community and our residents.

Thank You
Tammie Necessary

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

From: [Nancy Harris](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Bess Project in Acton - AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Friday, October 11, 2024 4:12:39 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Kathryn,

I am opposed to this BESS project being developed in our community of Acton!

If a fire happened, and you know how many fires have already occurred due to lithium batteries, it could not be put out and millions of gallons of water could be wasted trying to control it. The fumes and gases will pollute our air and ground water, and you also know we all live on well water. It is also too close to the railway and freeway and it will disrupt the movement of commuters from the Antelope Valley to Santa Clarita and other cities south of us.

This project, if ever approved, needs to be moved out to the middle of nowhere, where it will not affect the lives and health of so many people.

The safety of the Acton residents needs to be the forefront of this decision.

Respectfully submitted,

Nany Harris
46 year resident of Acton, CA
805-341-6405

From: [Norma Cobb](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Proposed Site in Acton for a Lithium Battery Storage Facility
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 1:30:05 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger,

Please stand up for the residents of Acton who are opposed to the extreme dangerous battery site that is being proposed to be built here in Acton, California.

After recent incidents of battery fires that have shut down freeways and exposed residents to toxic fumes, resulting in evacuations. It is difficult to understand why the community of Acton is even being considered as a future site for this dangerous Lithium battery storage facility.

Acton is considered a high fire area and prone to strong Santa Ana winds creating dangerous conditions when a fire breaks out. There are many homes close to the proposed site which rely on wells that supply their drinking water and many have livestock. As you are aware, lithium fires affect ground water which will endanger the residents.

Please consider other areas far away from residential neighborhoods where it would be safer to build a lithium battery storage site. The proposed site is only a few miles from my home. Please stop this facility from being built here in Acton. We ask for your help and support in this matter.

Sincerely,

Norma Cobb

Sent from my iPhone

From: [ones2watch](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: "Agenda item 53 —Hecate's Humidor LLC Transmission Line Franchise Agreement."
Date: Friday, October 11, 2024 12:09:07 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please, please stand with Acton /Agua Dulce! Stop this before it becomes a runaway event. It's not a question of if, but when it will happen.

Please help save our community!

Kristi Marshall
Acton, CA

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Patricia Akkad](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: acton electricity danger
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:26:25 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Please, please please vote against the proposed dangerous, electric battery storage facility!!!!

Besides being a terrible eyesore, that is the least of our problems: it is an extreme fire danger and we live in a high fire danger zone, and it gives off poisonous toxic emissions to the residents!

I suggest they put it out in the remote desert next to one of the windmill farms or solar farms and not put our citizens in danger

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Akkad
35 year Acton resident
661 733-3636
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Polly Myhrvold](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:18:02 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Please please please do not let this come into our town! Fire fire fire! I would hate to see our town go up in smoke if this catches fire. We've already seen two instances on California highways where a truck has caught on fire and blocked the intersection and another blocked the 15 highway until it could be taken care of. There is no populated place that any of these storage facilities should ever be built!.

Thanks
Polly Myhrvold
661 904-3202

From: [Residual Ranch](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Franchise Agreement re: Humidor BESS transmission line
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 9:51:52 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger:

Although I am not a resident of Acton, I am totally against the BESS project. I'm concerned for the safety of those who reside in Acton and the consequences they may face.

Please do not adopt this Resolution. This is an election year, and I would like to believe that the supervisors are concerned about Acton's concerns and will not adopt this Resolution.

I appreciate your attention and vote against this project.

Georgiana Rodrigues
Agua Dulce, CA.

From: [ROBERT TAYLOR](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:50:51 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

As a retired first responder, I cannot for the life of me come up with a valid reason why the Board of Supervisors would entertain, much less approve, storage of such dangerous materials in a known high risk fire area. I don't know how many news stories about out of control fires involving lithium batteries need to be broadcast before some common sense is exercised. Whose palm is getting greased here?

If you must have a BESS facility in the AV, at least move it to a more sparsely vegetated area away from homes and major transportation choke points!

Robert Taylor
LASD Retired.
Sent from my iPad

From: [Ron Bird](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Humidor Storage
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:21:20 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I live in Acton and strongly support the Humidor battery storage project that is on your agenda tomorrow. Please vote yes on this item.

From: rumroum@aol.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: suggested fatal device
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:05:13 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I understand that there will be a vote tomorrow by the board of supervisors about the proposed terrible and dangerous battery storage facility in Acton

I would like to register my request, even begging, to please vote against this terrible thing!

It is poisonous and can prove fatal for the entire community if it catches fire. All electric batteries are prone to fire.

My husband and I were on an airplane, and his cell phone became too hot to touch! I don't know how, but he was able to turn it off before it caught fire and the entire plane caught fire, and could have crashed and killed all people on board.

That is just one tiny example of all the electrical battery fires. And I am so afraid if that battery storage place goes in, I will sell my house and move away.

Please help

R. Anderson
Acton

From: [Ruth Brock](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#); [Saraiva, Anish](#)
Subject: Agenda item 53 and 107—Requesting letters to be included in official record
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 7:17:15 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

Re: Agenda Item 53 and 107

As the Board of Supervisors address the Franchise Agreement for the Humidor Transmission line this month with the final adoption being on the Oct. 29th agenda for your consideration, I am requesting that all of the letters sent in from Acton residents opposing this BESS project and its transmission line portion of the project are entered into the official record for this project.

The Acton residents sent their email letters of opposition to:
kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov

Thank you very much.
Ruthie Brock
Acton Takes Action

From: [Ruth Brock](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: mpestrella@pw.lacounty.gov
Subject: COMMENTS in opposition to Agenda item 53–Humidor transmission line Franchise Agreement ordinance
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:29:38 PM
Attachments: [How safe are lithium iron phosphate batteries – pv magazine International.pdf](#)

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I'm writing in opposition to the resolution of intent to adopt the Franchise Agreement ordinance for the Hecate Humidor BESS project in the community of Acton.

The residents of Acton are against this project approval for many reasons:

- 1) The BESS will utilize thousands Lithium-Iron-Phosphate batteries which are a fire risk, difficult to impossible to extinguish, can go into Thermal Runaway and expel large amounts of highly toxic gases that include Hydrogen Fluoride, Hydrogen Chloride, Hydrogen Cyanide, Methane, Ethane, Carbon Dioxide and Carbon Dioxide.
- 2) A failure at this BESS facility could result in soil and groundwater contamination from water runoff used to protect adjacent exposures. The approved Humidor site plan has not provided a design to contain water runoff should there be an incident. The Acton Water Basin basin serves the private wells of many Acton residents and is literally beneath this BESS project and the head waters of the Santa Clara River are adjacent to it.
- 3) In the event of a fire/failure incident, the State Route 14, Metro Rail and all roads serving this corridor of East Acton will be closed. This area has very limited ingress and egress so residents

will have difficulty evacuating quickly. Many equine, livestock and other domestic animals also will need to be evacuated.

Because of this area having limited escape routes, people may not be able to evacuate in time and may become trapped in close proximity to this dangerous off-gassing.

4) Acton residents will receive none of the benefit of the stored power that will be supporting the grid but must bear all of the fire and health risks and financial burdens of this project.

5) Properties may become devalued and far more difficult if not impossible to sell.

6) Fire insurance, which is already becoming very difficult to obtain may become impossible to obtain. Policy premiums have already doubled and tripled in this area under the CA “Fair Plan” as compared to what residents were previously paying under their now canceled or non-renewed policies. Without fire insurance these residents could lose their homes as all mortgage lenders REQUIRE fire insurance.

7) There is NO NEED for a BESS to be located near the substation to which it will connect. The only benefit is to the developer who will save money on a transmission line that spans a much shorter distance. As far as the function of the BESS, there is no reason to be near the substation. In the case of the Humidor, the developer insists it is necessary to put lives and property at risk in order for them to serve the grid. This is absolutely untrue. If this were true, solar and wind farms with integrated battery storage would not be out in the remote areas of the desert away from substations. This is all about PROFITS OVER PEOPLE.

8) In San Diego County there have been 3 BESS fires in the past year alone. In Sept. 2023, the Valley Center BESS burned. In May of this year the Gateway BESS in Otay Mesa burned for 11 days. And just on Sept. 5th the BESS owned by and located at San Diego Gas & Electric burned for several days. All three fires resulted in evacuations and shelter in place orders for residents as well as closures of hundreds of businesses, closure of schools and of course road closures. These failure events are extremely disruptive due to the risks of toxic off-gassing to the surrounding areas.

9) Very importantly, the location of the Humidor puts the power grid itself at risk due to being very close to critical 500kV overhead transmission lines that make up the southern terminus of the Pacific AC Intertie. A fire at the Humidor would potentially produce smoke that could cause the 500kV lines to arc and short-circuit. The short-circuiting could melt the insulators on the lines and result in the tripping of the grid system. This tripping can cause additional tripping as a safety response on other interconnected systems and could result in taking down the grid in many western states. It could take days to weeks and possibly up to \$1B to restore the power following an event like this. This scenario was brought to Acton's attention by two transmission specialists (Large System Operators) with a combined 75+ years experience and we conveyed this information to Congressman Mike Garcia. He has spoken about this poorly sited BESS and the risks to the grid and the residents of Acton from the floor of the House.

[Rep. Mike Garcia Floor Speech for Battery Electric Storage Systems](#)



Rep. Mike Garcia Floor Speech for Battery Electric Storage Systems

By Congressman Mike Garcia

The people of Acton have been very vocal and have spoken very clearly on their opposition to this project and sadly the County and the Board of Supervisors have thus far completely ignored our concerns. This project could still serve the grid and provide revenue to LA County if it were sited away from residents who are being put in harms way by placing it further out in the open desert.

Alternatively, if the County were to demand that Hecate deploy a SAFE battery technology for this project such as Iron Air or Iron Flow batteries which have no fire or toxicity risk and are capable of longer duration storage, this would mitigate all risks to residents. Recently Sacramento approved a 5 MW project which will utilize long duration energy storage batteries (LDES) that are Iron Flow technology. This project which will provide up to 100 hours of power also received \$30M in grant money from the CEC.

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/news/2023-12/cec-awards-30-million-100-hour-long-duration-energy-storage-project>

The approval for the BESS itself was based on a “similarity determination” which was totally inaccurate. This BESS should never have been declared “similar to an electric distribution

system”. Why? Because this Humidor BESS will receive energy over a 230kV AC (Alternating Current) transmission line and convert/step down the energy to 34 DC (Direct Current) power for storage in the batteries.

The BESS will then, when needed, convert or step up the energy back to 230kV AC to transmit power back to the Vincent Substation via the connected transmission line. The substation then steps it down to a lower voltage and sends it out at a lower AC voltage that can be utilized by households and other consumers.

Fact #1—Any voltage over 200 kV is considered “TRANSMISSION” voltage. Humidor receives electricity at 230 kV AC.

Fact #2—The stored DC power CANNOT be utilized by households and other consumers who can only receive AC power, so therefore the BESS cannot “distribute” this power.

Fact #3—“Distribution voltage” is considered 50 kV AC or less, but never DC! The Humidor stores energy at 34 kV DC.

Fact #4—The BESS cannot “distribute” energy that is “transmission” level based on the 230 kV voltage at which it returns power back to the Vincent Substation.

Please consider the significant risks associated with siting this project which will utilize millions of watts of risky Lithium-Iron-Phosphate batteries in a designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone in proximity to residences, animal rescues, equine facilities and kennels.

Lithium-Iron-Phosphate are touted as “safe” by developers as compared to Lithium-ion batteries, but there is information and studies that contradict this. (See attachment below)

Please do not approve the Franchise Agreement ordinance that

would allow this lithium-iron-phosphate BESS to be developed in
ACTON.

Thank you,

Stephen Brock

Retired 30 year LACOFD Firefighter Specialist, HazMat

32 year Acton resident

From: [SALLY IVES](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item 53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:27:46 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Good afternoon,

I am concerned citizen of the Acton Agua Dulce rural area. And I am writing you in regard to the Bess storage Facility proposal in Acton. This is a danger to our community. This will hurt our rural environment. It will change the wild life habitat for many species.

Please find somewhere else to put these dangerous batteries that can explode. This is a high fire danger area. As you know and our fire insurance has gone up every year now for a while. Which brings me to the question. How is the facility even allowed to happen with such high Fire Danger. Please go to your roots of common sense and open your eyes to the real facts of the dangers this could cause. Stop this from proceeding. Please take MONEY out of the equation.

Sally Ives

From: [Sbcglobal](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:35:40 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger,

The entire Acton community and myself are absolutely opposed to the BESS project being developed in the vicinity of Acton due to the overwhelming evidence of safety concerns. The area is already considered a high fire zone, let alone the build site being in a pinch zone with high traffic congestion, making this is a recipe for disaster! Additionally, this will eliminate our ability to purchase home owners insurance which is already near impossible to find let, never mind the ridiculously high cost.

Please consider this before allowing the project to continue.

Sincerely,
Brian De Grandis
Home owner and taxpayer

From: [Shannon Greenis](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Dangerous Battery Site in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:42:03 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town. Please oppose and fight this!

Thank you,

Shannon

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [Shannon Trudell Etheridge](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Hectate Grid - Acton CA
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 1:57:39 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hectate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Ms Barger,

I am writing to express my opposition of the BESS humidor project that is proposed to be placed in Acton California. As a resident of Acton , I have extreme concerns of the detrimental effects this project will have to our community and lifestyle. We are living in a high fire danger zone already and with many homes, depending on well water, it would be tragic to put this kind of facility in our community where one accidental fire could devastate our community and our precious supply of groundwater. Please do what's right for us and oppose this.

Shannon Trudell

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Sharon Corbett](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Bess Project-Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 6:02:22 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Sent from my iPhone

I'm sending you this email to oppose the Bess project for Acton.

Acton is a high fire area.

It has been proven these batteries do catch fire.

Our insurance rates are already shy high.

People moved here to live a rural life and yet we keep getting dumped on.

Please listen to the people of Acton and Aqua Dulce.

Thank you,

Sharon Corbett

31660 Cedarcroft Rd

P o box 52

Acton

From: [Sharon's Tablet Runci](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53 Hecate grid humidor storage in Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 4:40:07 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Ms. Barger;

Please vote against the projected Hecate grid humidor storage facility planned for Acton. Recent small lithium ion battery fires have clearly shown the danger of larger facilities in an area near homes and transportation centers.

Our home of 30 years is located in a canyon directly across from the Acton Metrolink station. Our safety could not be guaranteed as a thermal runaway fire would not allow us the time to evacuate. Sheltering in place, should a fire occur, may also be a death sentence since we are designated an "extremely high fire danger area" by Edison. Our insurance rates are astronomical and these facilities will have a major impact on future policies if they are even available.

Please do the right thing for your constituents and vote against this facility. There is a need for them, but Acton is not the right place.

Thank you.
Sharon Runci

From: smziggys@yahoo.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:17:15 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Ms. Barger

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town. Please oppose and fight this!

Michelle Ziegelmeyer

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Summer Baker](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item 53. Hecate Gide Humidor
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:38:36 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Kathryn Barger
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov

AGENDA ITEM #53
Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC project being proposed in the Acton community. As a resident of Acton, which is located in a high fire-risk zone, I am deeply concerned about the significant safety risks associated with placing a large-scale lithium battery energy storage system (BESS) in our area.

Safety is my primary concern. Lithium-ion battery storage facilities pose a serious fire hazard, particularly in fire-prone areas like Acton. These batteries are highly combustible and can cause dangerous fires, as evidenced by previous incidents. In high temperatures, a single malfunction could lead to a catastrophic fire event, which would be extremely difficult to control, especially given the rural nature of our area and the limited firefighting resources. Lithium battery fires also emit toxic fumes that could pose additional health risks to the residents and wildlife in the surrounding areas.

Moreover, the environmental impact of such a facility is also concerning. In the event of a fire, hazardous chemicals from the burning batteries could contaminate local air and water sources, leading to long-term damage to our ecosystem. Given that Acton is a rural and environmentally sensitive area, the risks are too great to ignore.

While I recognize the importance of renewable energy projects, I strongly believe that such a facility should not be located in a high fire zone like Acton. There are safer, more appropriate locations for this type of project that do not carry the same level of risk to public safety and the environment.

I urge you to reconsider the approval of this project for the safety and well-being of our community. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,
Summer Baker
Acton, CA

From: [Susan Burns](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 7:58:23 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to this BESS project being developed in beautiful our town of Acton. This is a HIGH FIRE AREA and WHEN NOT IF this BESS CATCHES fire (thermal runaway) in our HIGH WIND CORRIDORS I don't have to imagine the catastrophic effects it will have. All roads, highways and sr14 all rail systems will be shut down in and out a shelter in place orders for TOXIC FUMES will be in order harming many of our families elders, children along with pets and livestock in the outdoors. If water is used for a cooling down because it burns at such a intense high degree all those toxins will go into our ground water. THESE BESS FACILITIES DO NOT BELONG IN ANY COMMUNITY ANYWHERE, OTAY MESA AND MANY OTHERS ARE OBVIOUS EXAMPLES OF WAY, PLEASE DO NOT ENDANGERED OUR LIVES.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND RESEARCH ON THIS MATTER.

SUSAN BURNS RESIDENT OF ACTON FOR 38YRS.

From: [Susie Bayer](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Cc: [Ruth Brock](#)
Subject: I Oppose the Hecate BESS Project in Acton, California
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 5:08:00 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

This letter is to inform you that I am not a supporter of the Humidor Hecate BESS project. As you are aware, Acton's natural terrain is brush and weather is very dry. When there is a wild fire in our area it can take weeks to extinguish and it can burn for miles and be more than devastating. Our community has already struggled with home owners' insurance rates jumping to sky high premiums or cancellations due to being deemed **VERY HIGH FIRE AREA**. This project will be the death of our property values. It only increases our risk!

Acton is not full of residential planned communities. Acton is a rural town, where people live on one or more acres. Those acres house families, domestic pets, horses, goats, chickens, cows and vegetable gardens. It is also close to two highways and rail line which is our only way out when your battery storage catches fire. ***So, in my eyes, this project is not planned in a safe place.***

I am also aware, that SCE Vincent Hill substation does not provide power to the Acton community. Increasing the grid does not keep my lights on.

In closing, I would like to inform you and the Hecate Grid, I am not in support of your project in my community. My recommendation would be for you to look further out into the desert where this project will be surrounded by rocks and sand that will not burn down homes, livestock and endanger peoples lives along with spreading poisonous chemicals into the water and air! Why put over 7000 people or more at risk?

Sincerely,

Susan Bayer

Concerned Acton Resident

From: [TERRY WOOD](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS Project
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 7:16:52 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello,

I am writing this in opposition of the BESS Project proposed for Acton, CA. I OPPOSE this HUMIDOR BESS project and therefore DO NOT SUPPORT the adoption of the Franchise Agreement.

Regards,
Terry & Michael Wood
1607 Mary Rd
Acton, CA 93510
661-435-9334

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: [The Hamburgers](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:35:00 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53
Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Ms. Barger,

I am writing in the hopes that you would oppose the BESS project in Acton. Acton is a small rural town with a large heart. There are so many other places to build this BESS site- why in a small town. We already have our homeowners insurance rising because of the potential of fire. I ask why would we put a fire risk here? It does not make sense when there are so many other options away from a community. Please say NO to BESS!
Thank you for your time!

David and Christa Hamburger

From: [Thomas Harvey](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 OPPOSITION
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 3:20:48 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53
HECATE GRID HUMIDOR STORAGE 1 LLC PROPRIETARY ELECTRICAL
FRANCHISE

To Whom this may concern

Hello ! My name is Thomas Harvey , a homeowner and resident of Acton CA.

I would like to express my opposition regarding Item #53.

Acton is a small community of family farms and quiet living.
Building a structure like this would bring a huge concern around safety of our residents.

Road infrastructure is not able to withstand it.

It brings a level of crime to our area.

It brings unwanted noise pollution to our quant village.

If you can please consider these key points it would be greatly appreciated as we aim to keep Acton a country living village.

Regards

Thomas Harvey
(631)504 8298

From: [thomas mastin](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage facility
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:47:12 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger,

I am writing to you to voice my concern regarding the Hecate Grid Storage Facility in Acton California. As you are aware Acton is a high fire danger zone and many of the residents including myself have had our homeowners insurance canceled in the past year with most insurance companies ending coverage in this area due to the high fire danger. Insurance coverage was difficult to find and was much more expensive.

The development of any battery storage facility in Acton will increase the fire danger for our families and property and will affect our ability to insure our homes. I urge you to oppose agenda item #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Facility storage 1 LLC Priority Electrical Transmission Franchise.

Respectfully
Thomas Mastin
33855 McEnery Canyon Rd, Acton, CA 93510
(661)878-5816
thoasmastin@gmail.com

From: [timclen](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS IN ACTON
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 5:41:10 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Greetings,

I along with my family and most residents are against the proposed site for this facility. As a matter of safety and the fact that it is right next to Angeles Crest forest makes this a recipe for potential disaster.

I am a 20 year resident and have been here for two major fires in where evacuation orders were mandated.

This town/zip code has already suffered from insurance company cancelations and premium increases not to be believed. (Fire Zone)

Respectfully,

Tim Clendenen

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Toni Faragalli](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: BESS in Acton Ca
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:45:59 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Ms. Barger

Please fight for the residents of Acton who are opposed of this very dangerous battery site that could be built in Acton. Given the recent battery fires that shut down freeways and evacuated residents due to the toxic fumes, I cannot imagine how they could build such a dangerous site so close to our town. Please oppose and fight this! Besides the extreme fire danger if we contaminate out water it will never recover.

Thank you
Toni Faragalli
9342 Sierra Highway
Agua Dulce Ca 91390

Blessed is the person who sees the need, recognizes the responsibility, and actively becomes the answer. -William A. Ward

From: [Traci Foster](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Proposed Bess site
Date: Friday, October 11, 2024 10:18:59 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

I am writing you to reconsider putting this Storage facility in Acton. Safety is a big issue. High fire danger in this location. If it catches on fire (which is probable) you could wipe out our community. Also toxins can enter our water table. They're are much better sites to consider than our community .

Please have some compassion.

Thankyou.
Traci Foster

From: [Tracy M Smith](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Agenda Item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:37:16 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Supervisor Barger,

Please do not allow the Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise to be built in Acton. There is plenty of desert land further out that can be used for this type of facility.

Residents of Acton, a rural, family oriented, animal friendly community do not need nor want this facility in our area.

Please vote NO!

Tracy M. Smith
TMS Communications
tracy.tmscom@gmail.com
818-640-1801
www.linkedin.com/in/tracymsmith

From: [Tricia De Grandis](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:01:39 AM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project being developed in the Acton community. While I understand the importance of advancing clean energy initiatives, I have serious concerns about the safety implications of such a project, particularly in our area, which I believe must be considered.

The primary concern is the inherent risk posed by large-scale battery storage facilities. These systems, as you are likely aware, have been linked to a number of safety incidents, including fires and explosions. Given the close proximity to residential homes and the rural nature of Acton, the possibility of such an event occurring poses an unacceptable threat to public safety.

Compounding this issue is the fact that Acton has only one road in and out of the area. In the event of an emergency, such a limitation significantly hinders the ability to safely evacuate residents or provide timely access to emergency services. This bottleneck creates an unnecessary risk that could result in catastrophic consequences, not only for the people living here but also for first responders.

Furthermore, the introduction of this facility will disrupt the rural character of our community, adding industrial-scale infrastructure that is out of place in an area where residents value the natural environment and peaceful living conditions. The long-term effects of the project could extend beyond safety concerns, impacting the quality of life and property values for those of us who call Acton home.

I urge you to consider these significant concerns and the potential risks posed by the project. I respectfully ask that you oppose this development and work with the community to find safer, more appropriate locations for such projects.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to your response and hope that our concerns will be given the serious consideration they deserve.

Sincerely,

Tricia De Grandis
33746 White Feather Rd.

Acton Ca, 93510
661-310-4086

From: vitanmore@aol.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 12:06:58 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

it has come to my attention that the tomorrow the Resolution of Intent to Adopt the Franchise Agreement for the Humidor BESS transmission line will go before the Board of Supervisors!

I beg you to not allow this to pass! This will be a health risk to our families as well as fire risk to the AV area.

Thank you, Barbara Moore
34689 Desert Rd.
Acton CA 93510

From: [Wayne Wilson](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: AGENDA ITEM #53 BESS
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 2:02:12 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

AGENDA ITEM #53

Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise

Dear Supervisor Barger

I will keep this short. My wife and I are strongly opposed to placing the Humidor BESS project in our Acton community. The reasons are many, and it seems every day Lithium-Ion Battery technology is proving to be much less safe than originally thought.

But for us, we live all too near the proposed BESS project to feel safe.

We live along Soledad Canyon Road on the BESS side of the road. Friends of ours live even closer o this massive storage site. They are all afraid.

- Acton is a high risk fire area. That's why our insurance rates have gone through the roof.
- BESS projects have not adequately provided for thermal runaway fires in such high risk areas. Where is the water going to come from?
- Toxic fumes pour out of BESS-style fires. We are too close to even consider allowing this in our "neighborhood."

We have looked at the science, and this is simply too unsafe for our area.

I am all for Green Energy. Safe, modern nuclear power is far preferable to the destruction of so much fertile land, global child labor in mining lithium, and the inherent dangers of this soon to be out dated lithium technology.

Please move this project away from people and their homes. Union jobs are important, but not more important than safety!

Thank you,

Wayne and Laura Wilson
1414 Soledad Canyon Road
Acton, CA 93510

From: wbmkitcko@aol.com
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: Acton
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 1:54:56 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

I am opposed to BESS being developed in our lovely community of Acton..
This project is inappropriate for our town.
Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Sincerely,
Wendy Kitcko

From: [Wendy Calvin](#)
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: I oppose the Humidor BESS project in Acton Agenda item #53
Date: Monday, October 7, 2024 5:47:38 PM

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Dear Supervisor Barger,

RE: AGENDA ITEM #53 Hecate Grid Humidor Storage 1 LLC Proprietary Electrical Transmission Franchise.

As an Acton resident I vehemently oppose the Resolution of Intent to Adopt the Franchise Agreement for the Humidor BESS transmission line. I understand that this agenda item will go before the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, and I urge you to vote NO.

As local Acton resident and business owner, this project is dangerous and will create a severe safety and fire risk in an area designated by Cal-Fire as high risk for forest fires.

We have seen the dangers of these storage facilities with fires in San Diego and the recent incident on the 15 freeway where the tractor trailer carrying batteries caught fire causing evacuations of the surrounding area and the fire department unable to put the fire out. Why would the Board of Supervisors want to put that in the middle of our small town? What possible gain would there be to put our lives at risk? There is not enough money worth more than the lives of the residents of Acton.

This company has lied and sent propaganda mailers out to the residents with false claims of support. Please do not fall for their tactics.

I ask you to do what is right for your constituents and vote NO.

Respectfully,

-

Wendy Calvin

818-621-8834

From: wppplus@isd.lacounty.gov
To: [Barger, Kathryn](#)
Subject: New submission from Contact Us
Date: Tuesday, October 8, 2024 8:13:13 AM

Name

Bill Gerlach

Email

BillGerlach@ca.rr.com

Phone

(661) 400-9345

Address

2420 Vista Del Monte DR
Acton, California 93510
United States
[Map It](#)

Subject

Humidor BESS transmission line

Office Location

Downtown Office

Message

Please don't let this happen in our community. This is hazardous and unsafe for our residents and homes.
If it is absolutely necessary then find a place in the desert away from citizens and residences.