

We, the below signed residents of the city of Santa Clarita and the cities within the Antelope Valley, in support of Acton and Agua Dulce, California, oppose any currently and future proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facilities to be approved for development within and bordering the Acton area.

BESS Lithium-ion facilities are at risk for “thermal runaway” resulting in fires, explosions and potential release of toxic gases.

Whether the fire starts from this common battery thermal runaway or from another source, the BESS facilities would pose great risk to residents in our community.

With risk of fire, explosion and release of toxic gases in mind, we oppose any and all proposed BESS sites due to them being:

- a. Within the designated VERY HIGH FIRE HAZARD AREA of Acton
- b. Within or adjacent to Los Angeles County’s designated Significant Ecological Area (SEA)
- c. Over the Antelope Valley/Acton groundwater basin that is the water source for many residents on wells.
- d. Within the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed
- e. In close proximity to many homes and ranches who would be exposed to potential health and safety risks should a fire occur, suffer substantial financial losses due to lowered property values and property selling hardship, and suffer visual blight of these industrial developments in what should be rural landscape, according to the land use designation in that area.

In addition, these BESS facilities are prone to MECHANICAL INDUCED HAZARDS such as vibration, shock and seismic activity.

Even transportation of the components has been shown to be a source of vibration significant enough to cause defects. These mechanical hazards can cause internal construction defects resulting in short circuiting and high temperatures which in turn can cause catastrophic thermal runaway.

With these vibration, shock and seismic vulnerabilities in mind, we oppose the proposed BESS Facilities in Acton for the following reasons:

- a. Located near the planned, preferred underground SR-14A route for the Burbank to Palmdale section of the California High Speed Rail, a potential source of significant vibration.
- b. In extreme proximity to the San Andreas fault, an active and constant source of seismic activity.

Lithium-ion large capacity batteries used in BESS facilities are also vulnerable to THERMAL HAZARDS.

High and low temperatures can lead to different unsafe conditions such as decomposition of the electrolyte and solid electrolyte interface layer, destabilization of the cathode and anode that eventually lead to a violent venting, fire, and thermal runaway.

In reference to the THERMAL HAZARDS:

We are opposed to BESS Facilities within or bordering Acton due to:

a. Acton being in the high desert which is known to have more extreme climate, with it being normal to dip well below freezing during the winter months and soar above 100 degrees during the summer.

The Avantis “Angeleno” project, with a proposed 1,150 MW/4,600 MWhours capacity is mammoth in size and nearly 30% larger than the Vistra Energy Facility in Moss Landing, CA, currently the largest BESS in the world with a storage capacity of 730 MW. And to validate our concerns regarding thermal runaway, the Vistra BESS facility shut down between September 2021 and July 2022 due to “overheating problems”, aka potential thermal runaway.

Acton is a quiet rural town and lies within a designated Rural Preservation Area. Projects of this size and scope do not comply with our AV Area Plan nor the LA County General Plan. Approval of projects such as this would require amendment to the General Plan and would be in complete contradiction to the existing protections put in place for Acton.

Therefore the residents of the City of Santa Clarita and the cities within the Antelope Valley stand with the residents of Acton and Agua Dulce and strongly reject the approval of any BESS projects within the community of Acton or bordering Acton for all of the above stated reasons.

We urge you to NOT APPROVE AMENDMENTS to the LACounty General Plan that would enable approval of any currently proposed projects such as the HECATE “HUMIDOR” and the AVANTUS “ANGELENO”, as well as any that may be proposed in the future.

Thank you,

The residents of the city of Santa Clarita and the cities within the Antelope Valley, whose signatures appear on the accompanying petition.

We, the below signed residents of Santa Clarita and the Antelope Valley, in support of Acton and Agua Dulce, are united in extreme opposition to the HUMIDOR and ANGELENO Projects, two currently proposed, as well as any future proposed large capacity Lithium- Ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) facilities within and bordering the community of Acton for reasons stated in the submitted attached document.

NAME

SIGNATURE

ADDRESS