



# SAVE OUR RURAL TOWN

## **Bullet Point Summary Handout of Jacki Ayers' Save Our Rural Town's August 24, 2023, Letter to Supervisor Kathryn Barger**

1. Regional planning recently approved Hecate Humidor project ministerially (simple Site Plan Review) because they determined the use to be “similar” to an “electric DISTRIBUTION substation” which is an allowable use in M-1 zoning.
2. FACT: Battery Energy Storage System facility actually operates like a “electric TRANSMISSION substation”.
3. LA County zoning code does not allow “similarity determinations” on M-1 zoning. In the zoning code, similar use determinations are only allowed on M-1.5 and M-2.
4. Regional Planning also incorrectly issued a CEQA (CA Environmental Quality Act) NOTICE of EXEMPTION. Regional Planning claims that the Humidor project was categorically exempt from CEQA, but their claims are insupportable under CEQA guidelines.
5. Approving the Humidor BESS separately from its connecting 230 kV transmission line to the Vincent Substation is a violation of CEQA. Because the two are connected in a manner that each is dependent upon the the other in order to function, they must be approved as a single WHOLE project. CEQA requires an environmental assessment of “the whole of the action.”
6. Because a non-elected official or decision-making body (Regional Planning) issued the Notice of Exemption from CEQA, an individual may appeal the exemption decision through an ELECTED body, which would be our LACounty Board of Supervisors.
7. THE APPEAL HAS BEEN DONE BY SAVE OUR RURAL TOWN

**Handout Distributed at the Acton Emergency Town Meeting on August 29, 2023**