

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Time: 02-25-25 09:00

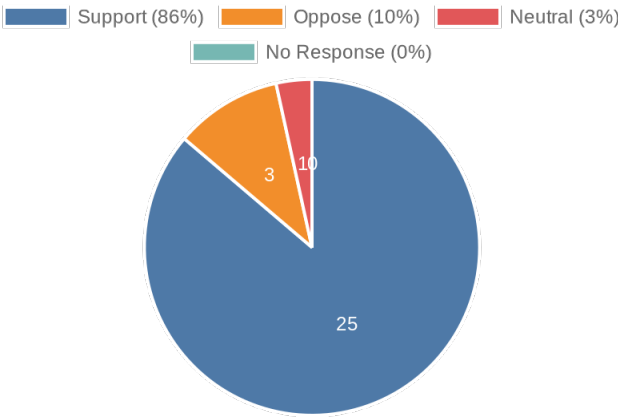
eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
Board of Supervisors	02-25-25 09:00	26	29	25	3	1

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

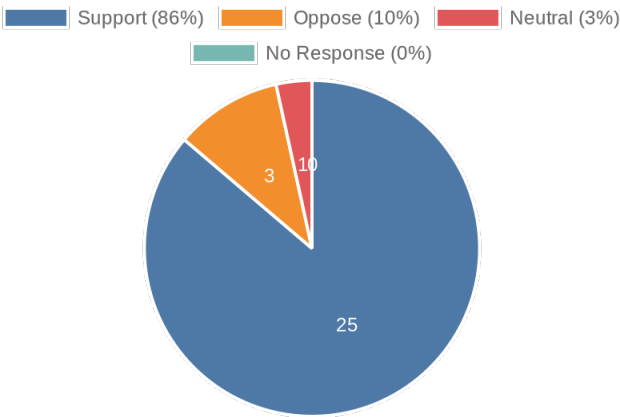


Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
11. SUPPORTING SAFER PRACTICES WHEN SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS	29	25	3	1

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

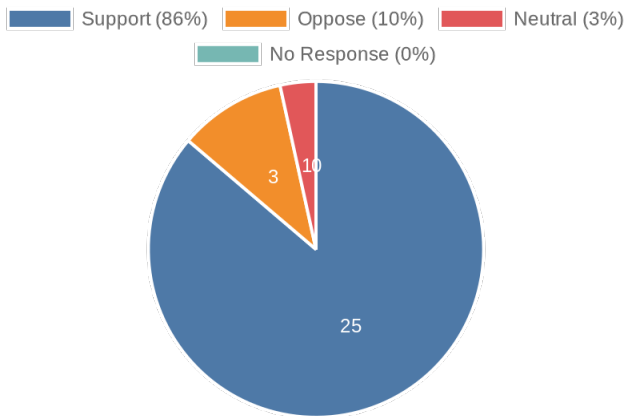
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Overall Sentiment



Agenda Item: eComments for 11. SUPPORTING SAFER PRACTICES WHEN SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS

Overall Sentiment



Lori Crandall

Location: 92028, FALLBROOK
Submitted At: 12:02pm 02-25-25

We need to support this bill - rural communities are getting the brunt of these systems and they have proven to be problematic with fires. There needs to be safer standards.

Delores ChavezHarmes

Location: 92082, Valley Center
Submitted At: 11:44am 02-25-25

BESS projects are a detriment to our communities. North County has already suffered three BESS fires which clearly shows the instability of these projects. While Valley Center is already concerned with wildfire and is mapped in a high fire area, we strongly oppose BESS facilities county wide.

Alden Townsend

Location: 92082, Valley center
Submitted At: 9:55am 02-25-25

This is a step in the right direction to protect people, animals, our food and health now and your children and your grandchildren.

Please do the right thing. So many great comments.

Thank you

Joan Bockman

Location: Oceanside
Submitted At: 9:52am 02-25-25

Regulations are good and we need Federal support to enforce them. Please stop the destruction in DC or we are left to the whims of battery manufacturers with no oversight or control. Profit over people is not acceptable.

Patty Stottlemeyer

Location: 92024-4516, Encinitas

Submitted At: 9:24am 02-25-25

Yes please, and thank you

Jeniene Domercq

Location: 92028, Fallbrook

Submitted At: 8:57am 02-25-25

I support AB303. Our communities need to be protected and our residents need to be safe. This is a step in the right direction. Currently BESS facilities have been allowed to be built and operate in areas that are too close to residential areas. Thank you.

Shari Welte

Location:

Submitted At: 8:49am 02-25-25

Support:

JP Theberge

Location: 92078, San Marcos

Submitted At: 8:36am 02-25-25

Please remember that our local elected officials have already had their land use authority bypassed by AB205 (the opt-in bill) which allows developers to bypass local jurisdictions and to get approval through the CEC. AB303 actually returns that authority back to the locals. Yes, it imposes a major siting restrictions, but you have to ask why is that being included in the bill? Because the local jurisdictions have not stepped up to establish strong protections for communities. There have been over 300 letters written in support of AB303. The communities are asking for it because we need protections from the well-established risk that BESS facilities pose to families, neighborhoods and residential communities. Just remember that we've seen these facilities catch fire more than once per month since 2021. It's not an outlier. Not "old technology." The new technology hasn't had a chance to fail yet. Let's not make our communities guinea pigs for untested, toxic facilities.

Sam Dabney

Location:

Submitted At: 8:04am 02-25-25

Otay Mesa, Escondido and Moss Landing battery storage fires provide enough examples of potential liability.

<https://ctif.org/news/fire-largest-bess-us-led-evacuation-1500-residents-near-moss-landing-fire-left-burn-out>

Kathy Giovannetti

Location: 92028, Fallbrook

Submitted At: 7:04am 02-25-25

Bess projects in our community will likely cause fire insurance rates to sky rocket. More local over site is needed and these projects should be nowhere near homes and schools. These dangerous sites should be remote, miles from our community.

kathie morris

Location:

Submitted At: 6:20am 02-25-25

I support strict safety guidelines for Bess projects . However, 3200 feet is not nearly enough when you place them in a residential area such as the one in Fallbrook . Please devote more time to explore better / more options . These are dangerous and should be nowhere near homes .

Samantha Barrymore

Location: 92010, Carlsbad

Submitted At: 12:27am 02-25-25

BESS technology should not be anywhere near our fire prone community!

D Rattray

Location: 92082, Valley Center
Submitted At: 10:57pm 02-24-25

I support AB303, however BESS technology should not be located in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (VHFHSZ). Valley Center has already experienced fires as a result of battery storage technology. With limited evacuation routes and various two lane roads, our lives, homes, businesses and animals are at stake. Otay Mesa, Escondido and Moss Landing battery storage fires provide enough examples of potential liability. Let's start looking at hydropower. Hydropower is the largest source of electricity in Canada, accounting for over 60% of the total electricity generated in the country. We could use more stored water too.

Janean Huston

Location: 92029, Escondido
Submitted At: 10:45pm 02-24-25

I urge you to support AB303, which creates strong siting standards for BESS facilities and brings control back to local governments. We own a ranch just behind the proposed Sugero BESS site in Escondido. We purchased this as our dream home when my husband retired after 20 years from the Marine Corps. We have 8 horses, 5 dogs, 2 goats, and my elderly mother. With all this in tow, spontaneously evacuating, not if but when, a thermal runaway event begins is NOT feasible.

While I agree that we need BESS to support the state mandate, they need to have local over-site, and should NOT be placed in the middle of a residential neighborhood. Please don't put my family's and my animal's health at risk for these projects with no strong siting standards or local over-site. This is not a question about clean energy, it's a question of safety and well-being of residents. It's not a question of denying these facilities, but a question of siting them in proper places. I urge you to support AB303.

Jehan Lalkaka

Location: 92029-4818, Escondido
Submitted At: 10:31pm 02-24-25

Safer practices are critical in ensuring that lives and livelihoods are a top priority wherever a project is considered and executed. I support AB303.

Myriam ElKhawand

Location: 92029-4818, Escondido
Submitted At: 10:26pm 02-24-25

I fully support safer practices that keep our communities safe!

Stephani Baxter

Location: 92028, Fallbrook
Submitted At: 9:42pm 02-24-25

This is a MUST. We are behind the 8 ball on BESS safety. Please support this to help protect our communities. While AB 303 is a step in the right direction toward safer siting standards, it could be more considerate of rural communities' evacuation constraints. Safer siting standards especially in high fire hazard, largely agricultural, residential areas is an immediate need. Setbacks should be measured in miles from residential, not feet.

Jared Pache

Location: 92029
Submitted At: 8:56pm 02-24-25

AB303 – great, we need more.

Does fire-prone BESS technology belong in Southern California? After the tragedy we just had in LA?
How do you model a battery fire with 80MPH+ Santa Ana Winds?

100's of millions are made while the community carries all of the burden. Before fire: loss of value, high insurance, loss of mortgage, loss of home, loss of life savings. After fire: Damaged health, property damage, loss of home, no insurance, expenses for evacuating.

Environmental: Who gets stuck with the bill cleaning-up the toxic chemicals? What stops the BESS operator from filing bankruptcy and walking away? Why is this industry not regulated like a utility company?

Setbacks for BESS projects from residential areas / schools / hospitals / sensitive receptors need to be in MILES not feet

BESS contactors should have mandatory insurance / bond in the event there is a disaster.

BESS projects should not be installed in high wildfire zones period, especially those exposed to Santa Ana Winds.

Lila Hargrove

Location: 92028, Fallbrook

Submitted At: 8:00pm 02-24-25

I SUPPORT SAFER PRACTICES WHEN SITING BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM PROJECTS.
PLEASE KEEP OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE.

Andrew McSparron

Location: 92029, ESCONDIDO

Submitted At: 7:48pm 02-24-25

I cannot urge you strongly enough to support AB303. This is not a question of politics, or Green, Clean Energy, it's a question of safety and well-being of residents. It's not a question of denying these facilities, but a question of siting them in proper places. They must not be placed near residences, hospitals, schools, or other sensitive receptors. Moss Landing, which is still burning, Escndido, Valley Center x 2, Otay Mesa, Chandler AZ, and numerous other BESS fires are prime examples of how dangerous these facilities are. The claimed "new technologies " that they have developed are a disaster as one after the other explodes and burns spewing toxic pollutants throughout the area. Please, for the sake of our California communities vote to support this life and property saving Bill, AB 303. Thank you, Andrew McSparron

Eileen Delaney

Location: 92028, Fallbrook

Submitted At: 7:11pm 02-24-25

We support this!

Sarah Marshall

Location: 92029, Escondido

Submitted At: 7:08pm 02-24-25

My husband and I both oppose this bill. It puts everyone in the community in danger. ____

Saad Asad

Location: 92103, SAN DIEGO

Submitted At: 6:19pm 02-24-25

I oppose AB 303 because we need battery storage to fight climate change and keep our lights on with renewable energy.

Battery storage lets us capture solar and wind power for use at night or when the wind isn't blowing. Without it, we stay dependent on fossil fuels that pollute our air and harm our health.

California has successfully built storage projects through existing local processes, increasing capacity by 1,250% since 2018. But we must triple this capacity by 2045 to reach our clean energy goals.

AB 303's extreme restrictions would make this nearly impossible. The 3,200-foot setback from homes, schools and businesses would eliminate most viable locations, despite modern facilities having robust safety features and improved battery chemistry.

I support thoughtful safety standards, but this bill goes too far. Let's continue our clean energy progress with sensible regulations that protect communities without blocking the infrastructure we need for a sustainable future.

Jason Pache

Location: 92056, Oceanside
Submitted At: 1:26pm 02-24-25

Please require safer practices when siting battery energy storage systems projects, and more specifically, please do not approve the Seguro energy storage system project that has been proposed for Eden Valley near the Palomar Medical Center in Escondido. Its location would endanger residents, a hospital and two major colleges in the vicinity. Three such fires have occurred in San Diego County since 2023. Chemicals from these fires scar lungs with potential long-term consequences. These chemicals are in the air well before evacuations can take place. In addition, evacuating the area would be next to impossible (how can a hospital evacuate?) if the fire were to spread into the vegetation in the area. There is nothing wrong with supporting California's green energy goals. We just have to do it in a way that's safe. That means not jeopardizing the lives of those whose lives would incontrovertibly be jeopardized when the fire—as the record attests—will undoubtedly occur.

Linda Leslie

Location: 82078, San Marcos
Submitted At: 12:44pm 02-24-25

I 100% oppose this project!!

Laura Maloney

Location: 92067, Rancho Santa Fe
Submitted At: 7:58am 02-23-25

I support AB303, but I believe its current restrictions do not go far enough. I respectfully urge you to adopt additional measures that prohibit the construction of Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) of any size in all High Risk Fire Zones. Allowing such facilities in rural areas—where evacuation routes are critically important for both residents and livestock—poses unacceptable risks. Please vote no on all pending BESS projects in these high-risk areas.

Casey B

Location:
Submitted At: 7:55am 02-23-25

No to any and all BESS in the county. "Battery energy storage system (BESS) projects may pose significant health, safety and environmental risks to surrounding communities, especially when located within or near existing residential neighborhoods." AB303 does not assure absolute 100% safety. No BESS = no safety issue.

Lynne Malinowski

Location: 92028, Fallbrook
Submitted At: 3:46pm 02-22-25

Please pass the support of AB303 letter. We absolutely need to have the highest possible standards for BESS installations, keeping in mind that citizen safety is paramount. With the history of the BESS fires, combined with the fire history and potential of the neighborhoods where they are proposed, it is irresponsible to not put safety first.

Tom Loggia

Location: 92067, Rancho Santa Fe
Submitted At: 3:51pm 02-21-25

Please pass the Battery Energy Safety & Accountability Act (AB 303). Based on the recent major fires in LA and San Diego, we must pass any law which improves the safety standards and restores local oversight for energy storage facilities in our community. We are considered a high risk fire area in Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe, so it is critical you mitigate any potential fire disaster. We don't want an LA disaster in our district.

The proposed Seguro BESS project in Escondido is expected to store 320 MWh and is closer than 3,200 ft to sensitive areas such as Palomar Medical Center and homes. So, please pass this law to stop the Seguro project. Thank you, Tom & Crystal Loggia