

Monday, October 16, 2023

Mr. Mayor and Members of the Petaluma City Council,

My name is Andrée Langlois. I have lived in Petaluma for 41 years, 21 on the westside and 20 on the eastside.

As you know, there are 2 Lithium-ion battery storage systems proposed for the eastside of Petaluma. The first 200 megawatts project, Bolero by Strata Energy would be on the site of the former Adobe Creek Golf Course, 1500 feet from homes and in close proximity to Casa Grande High School, the hatchery, Adobe Creek, elementary schools, Kaiser Permanente, in the flight path of Petaluma airport, and only 2 ½ miles from the Rodgers Creek Fault. That site was granted open space use in perpetuity by the county on August 28, 1990 and would need to be rezoned.

The second 300 megawatts Borealis proposal by Terra-Gen would be located next to the Petaluma Adobe State Historic Park and, by Permit Sonoma, will require a full EIR.

According to the Sonoma County General Plan 2020, the proposed Bolero project site borders the high fire hazard severity zone while the Borealis project across Adobe Road is in the very high fire hazard severity zone.

Lithium-ion batteries are not green, they are toxic and dangerous. One spark from a battery fire could start a firestorm that could not only devastate the eastside but it could easily jump the 101, spread to the westside, and cover a very large area with toxic smoke.

Remember the Tubbs firestorm that devastated Fountaingrove and jumped 101 to burn down Coffey Park? And how about the recent Lahaina fire? Are our emergency services prepared to control such a situation?

It could happen here and ask yourselves, what would you do if a BESS was proposed for the westside? This is not an eastside issue, it concerns all of Petaluma.

An EIR was required for Scott Ranch, the Dutra asphalt plant, and the bathtub installation. We, on the eastside, are asking for the same protection of our safety, environment, wildlife, and scenic corridor.

Please vote to demand a full Environmental Impact Report for the Bolero project.

For more information, visit petalumabatterystorage.com

Thank you,

Andrée Langlois, [REDACTED], 94954