

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. 8/11/2025

Public Comment:

Good morning/Afternoon Chair ^{Cap B} Lavagnino, and current sitting members. I am here to speak on the consequences of your actions. Yet this Uniparty form of local government we have here within our own board of supervisors standing firm in their Strong Affirmative Action to hold onto bad policies that have been protecting the criminals and not the good People of Santa Barbara County whom you are obligated to answer too. What Oath of Office did you recite? It obviously did not contain the words to bear true faith and allegiance to same to protect our people from enemies foreign and domestic. What does that mean? It is your Job to Protect the American Citizens who reside within Santa Barbara County boundaries from crimes from invasion Within our local boundaries from the designations of what are now foreign and domestic Terrorists. Sanctuary Status is a tyrannical by history, and not conducive to the US Constitution, the California Constitution of 1849 as designated by the Legislative Analysis Office Aka LAO in the State Capital.

Interesting what Rand Paul has spoke about the Save Act and the policies that congress has placed upon them every year to sneak in measures such as the Save Act, He simply said: "It is Political Theater, He called out both sides, this is Groundhog Day. They get a CR in September followed by an Omnibus, sometimes before Christmas most often after Christmas. It is the same Plot every fiscal year. He says they should have made twelve separate bills. He asks how come

they never cut spending? Democrats want to grow the welfare state, while the Republicans want to build the Military Industrial Complex. They should be doing our thing according to Article 1 section 8 of the US Constitution. Spending does not do anything to stop the spending addiction! This CR has the Save act it is not going to save anything. It is Lucy Stealing the Football all over again just as in the past 12 Cr is with the Elections. He refuses to be a thespian in this Political Theater. Cal-Exit.org is not the answer either, Lucy will not be stealing anymore footballs. New California State Doge is here! NCSDoge.com

Moss Landing, Battery Packs

Good afternoon, Chair Lavagnino and sitting members.

On February 22, 2025, New California State held a town hall meeting on the fallout of Moss Landing at the Benedict in Morro Bay our Keynote speakers were President Paul Preston New California State,

Chris Street CFO/International Economist for New California State

Kevin Wang, Bio, Chemical and Mechanical Engineer who has decades of experience with cleanups of Disaster Remediation Solutions with extensive knowledge to this complex field of environmental science. He holds a proven record as a pioneer in Decontamination and cleaning technologies. He has developed Organic solutions for every major disaster in the United States for the past 30 years.

Brian Roeder, Manager/Facilitator/Consultant/Entrepreneur a local from Monterey County, he is the steering member, co-founder, and spokesperson for Moss landing. He created 2 Facebook groups about the Moss landing Bess Fire. The first group of 3.5K members is an invaluable tool for people suffering from injuries who can communicate with others regarding injuries, sickness, and food contamination. The Moss landing Battery plant Environmental disaster Community group with 1.8k members shares information about contamination and challenges Bess facilities create.

I am here to share information I have been following since this past January the Moss Landing Bess Battery Plant Fires, The City of Morro Bay has Stopped the Progression of the plans that were slated for their city, which was going to be double the size of Moss Landing. They have managed to halt any County Plans due to Environmental Impact Reports aka EIR's had not been conducted to fast track these plants without public awareness or knowledge of what they intended to build in these municipalities. It was during this time when the Fires Started in Moss landing, burning 80% of the battery packs at the power plant. The battery packs themselves there is no fire intervention to stop these fires that also burn underneath the soil. What will impact Santa Barbara County is the Nipomo Cabellero Bess Plant, up on the Mesa just north of the 101 Freeway above the Santa Maria Speedway on the left traveling Northbound located at 696 Joshua Street. This plant sits on Private Land and has been fast tracked with No

EIRS, or emergency plans in place due to be placed online any day. Kevin Wang has stated that 1 trillion-dollar liability insurance would be needed. This plant sits right amid multiple agricultural Farms for Miles, less than 1000ft from the 101 freeway. Environmental damage would extend into Santa Barbara County as far as Orcutt, Ca.

<https://youtu.be/jGPpSVA-GXo>

THE GREAT STATE OF NEW CALIFORNIA



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

A TOWN HALL MEETING ON THE FALLOUT OF MOSS LANDING IS A MOSS LANDING DISASTER COMING TO A LOCATION NEAR YOU?

Saturday, February 22nd, 1 - 5 pm

The Benedict

1401 Quintana Rd, Morro Bay, CA 93442

with Guest Speakers

Paul Preston, President, New California State

Paul will speak on the biological consequences to the Elkhorn Slough Estuary and surrounding ecosystems in Monterey Bay. Toxic levels found include Hydrogen fluoride, Carbon monoxide, toxic metal particulates (cobalt, nickel, manganese), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), lithium compounds, Hydrochloric acid, and Hydrofluoric acid, to name a few.

Chriss Street, Chief Financial Officer, New California State

Chriss will focus on the finances and the *uninsurable risk* of BESS plants. On January 16th, there were no safety measures in place. There were no fire protection, no firewalls between the sections of the batteries, no mitigation for off-gassing, no catch basin to collect the water they doused on the fire, and no continuous safety devices for rainwater chemical contamination percolating into the ground or running off into the bay.

Kevin Wang, Bio, Chemical and Mechanical Engineer

Kevin has been dedicated to Disaster Remediation Solutions for decades and brings extensive knowledge to this complex field of environmental science. With a proven record as a pioneer in decontamination and cleaning technologies, Kevin has developed solutions for every major disaster in the United States over the past 30 years. With his extensive background, Kevin will have plenty of information to share about Moss Landing and other similar environmental disasters.

Brian Roeder, Manager/Facilitator/Consultant/Entrepreneur

Brian, a local from Monterey County, is a Steering member, co-founder, and spokesman for Moss Landing, having created 2 FB groups about the Moss Landing BESS Fire. With over 3.5k members, *The Moss Landing Power Plant/Vistra Fire Symptoms* group is an invaluable tool for people suffering from injuries who are able to communicate with others regarding injuries, sickness, and food contamination. *The Moss Landing Battery Plant Environmental Disaster Community* group, with 1.8k members, shares information about contamination and the challenges BESS facilities create.

This is a public event and all are welcome. Donations appreciated.

[MOUNTAIN TOP TIMES' SUBSTACK](#)

Moss Landing Lithium Battery Melt-Down Was 4th Fire

Written by Chriss W. Street



[MOUNTAINTOPTIMES](#)

JAN 27, 2025



The Mountain Top Times has learned that the [Vistra Energy](#)'s Moss Landing battery storage plant melt-down that began at the site of a decommissioned natural gas-fired power plant on January 16th, was the fourth Moss Landing battery fire since 2020.

The green energy people claim that there have only been 20 fire-related incidents at Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) installations over the past decade. But they fail to disclose that the industry has grown by 25,000% since 2018.

The Morro Vistra Energy facility had just announced completion of its third phase expansion to enhance California's electric grid by increasing storage capacity at the Moss Landing Battery Energy Storage System to 110,000 battery units with a capacity of 750 megawatts. But the property also houses an adjacent 27,000 battery BESS with a capacity of 182.5-MW that is owned and operated by Pacific Gas & Electric.

Moss Landing energy storage facilities are used to stabilize the mid-state electric grid by storing solar power produced regionally during daylight hours, then releasing electricity during peak demand for heating, cooling and cooking that soar in the evenings.

Vistra batteries were manufactured by Korea's LG (not Tesla batteries) that used the nickel-manganese-cobalt (NMC) chemistry, developed for electric vehicles because it packs a lot of power. But that superior density becomes a vulnerability if defects cause batteries to heat. High temperatures cause battery thermal runaway chain reactions.

LG battery thermal runaway chain reaction incidents include a 2019 Arizona [explosion](#), 2024 San Diego [Gateway fire](#), and the four Moss Landing incidents. General Motors in 2020 instituted a [\\$2 billion Chevrolet Bolt recall](#) to remove LG NMC-based batteries

Because BESS installations were labeled by the Biden and the Newsom administrations as "clean energy," the massive facilities do not have sensors to measure toxic chemical emissions. Furthermore, there are no continuous safety measurement devices for rainwater chemical contamination percolating into the ground or running off into the bay.

Known Moss Landing BESS [contaminants include](#):

1. Hydrogen fluoride (HF)
2. Carbon monoxide (CO)
3. Toxic metal particulates (e.g., cobalt, nickel, manganese)
4. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
5. Lithium compounds
6. Hydrochloric acid (HCl)
7. Hydrofluoric acid
8. Phosphorus oxyfluoride
9. Toxic gases from burning plastics and other materials
10. Nitrogen oxides (NO_x)
11. Sulfur dioxide (SO₂)
12. Particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀)
13. Various solvents and industrial chemicals used in manufacturing processes

Local California Assemblymembers Dawn Addis and Gail Pellerin, were joined by State Senator John Laird demanded the [California Public Utilities Commission](#) conduct “a fully transparent and independent investigation, updated safety enforcement, prevention enhancements, and for the Vistra BESS to remain offline until safety is guaranteed.”

Huge Moss Landing Battery Fire Still Burning

Written by Chriss W. Street

[MOUNTAINOPTIMES](#)

JAN 19, 2025



While attention was distracted by the Los Angeles wildfire, the largest lithium battery storage facility in the world is burning into the ground, spewing noxious toxic fumes and particulates into the air, and forcing evacuations as firefighters were helpless to stop it.

The lithium-ion battery fire that broke out at the Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility owned and operated by Texas based Vistra Energy sits on the site of a closed natural gas-fired power plant.

A local state of emergency was called on Thursday with 2,000 emergency evacuations that lasted through Saturday. With the fire smoldering, Coast Highway remains closed.

Battery energy storage systems (BESS) have been praised as the pinnacle in smart living by Gov. Newsom and his Green New Deal advocates. The huge Moss Landing BESS plays a massive role in stabilizing the currency flow across California's electrical power grid that is now dominated by intermittent solar and wind energy sources.

Monterrey County Supervisor Glenn Church [told local KSBW-TV](#): "There's no way to sugarcoat it. This is a disaster, is what it is." The county has emphasized that their priority issues are the safety of the community and first-responders.

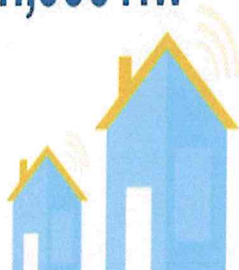
Vistra Energy had just completed the third phase of what they praised as an expansion to enhance California's electric grid by increasing storage capacity at the Moss Landing Energy Storage Facility to 110,000 battery units with a capacity of 750 megawatts.

 **6,800**
EMPLOYEES

14
FACILITIES
WITH OSHA
VPP STAR
RATING

LARGEST COMPETITIVE POWER
GENERATOR IN THE U.S.,
WITH APPROXIMATELY

41,000 MW



5 MILLION
CUSTOMERS



1,020 MW
BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE
CURRENTLY ONLINE

Communities where lithium is mined tend to suffer dire health and ecological issues due stemming from the toxicity of alkali-metals. But its use has grown by 200% annually in the last decade due to residential, commercial, and utility scale battery applications.

Most BESS commercial systems consist of [multiple lithium-ion battery cells](#), with each battery cell (7 x 5 x 2 inches) storing a dense 350 whreu (waste heat recovery energy units). But there are high risks associated with lithium cells experiencing “[thermal runaway](#)”, which causes them to release very hot and flammable toxic gases.

Failure of one lithium cell in a large BESS storage system tends to quickly cascade to include hundreds of individual cells, risking explosions from the hot flammable gases.

California fire-fighters conduct extensive training to respond to explosive scenarios. But the standard operating procedure for fighting a battery energy storage system fires, is to let it burn out on its own.

It is unknown how long the fire will last. The flames subsided over the weekend, but the massive facility continues to smolder, and The Coast Highway is still closed.

The King Snake of USAID Spending

Written by Chriss W. Street



[MOUNTAINOPTIMES](https://mountaintoptimes.com)

FEB 10, 2025



It is hard to choose the most pernicious spending in [USAID](https://www.usaid.gov)'s \$50 billion annual budget, but the 'Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project' that partners with the CIA's [Transparency International](https://www.transparencyinternational.org) and the Soros' Open Society Foundations to retaliate against countries and entities it deems hostile to the Deep State initiatives may be the king snake.

The OCCRP non-government-organization (NGO) describes itself as: *"one of the largest investigative journalism organizations in the world, headquartered in Amsterdam and with staff across six continents. We are a mission-driven*

nonprofit newsroom that partners with other media outlets to publish stories that lead to real-world action.”

With 200 member staff that partners with over 50 independent media outlets worldwide, OCCRP dominated the [EPPY Awards from Editor & Publisher](#) that recognize excellence in digital journalism, with First Place Prizes last year. But it is also labeled: “[The Biggest, Most Corrupt News Organization You Have Never Heard of.](#)”

The U.S. Agency for International Development was launched by the Kennedy administration as an [independent federal agency](#) to deliver civilian foreign aid and development assistance. It gained voter popularity from newscast of its trucks responding to third-world natural disasters and conflicts with food and medical supplies.

But with no oversight and globally contracting with thousands of opaque NGOs, USAID served as a Deep State’s slush fund to buy new friends and destabilize old enemies.

USAID’s invisibility ended in April 2006 when medical doctor and freshman [Sen. Tom Coburn \(R-Okla.\)](#) forced officials to admit to corrupt spending, including one of USAID’s charity initiatives functioning as a front for a child prostitution ring in India.

With the intense public uproar over the USAID direct spending, Illinois Democrat Sen. Barack Obama (Ill.) and Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain (Az.) co-sponsored, and Republican President George W. Bush signed, Coburn’s [Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act](#). The legislation led to the creation of the [USASpending.gov](#) that makes most federal spending detail accessible on the internet.

FFATA data access spurred the launch of Wikileaks in October 2006 as an investigative journalist network to help whistleblowers gather evidence of corruption and criminality. The info would then be distributed to main-stream-media organizations for publication.

By March 2008, the U.S. military issued a [finding](#) that Wikileaks was a “potential force protection, counterintelligence, operational security and information security threat to the U.S. Army.” The U.S. State Department [directed](#) award of a major USAID grant to an NGO start-up that promised to build a global consortium of friendly investigative journalist NGO named ‘Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project.’

Wikileaks in early 2010 published a leaked helicopter gun-camera video of a potential American war crime in Iraq called “[Collateral Murder](#).” The shocking tape was quickly followed by exposes titled the ‘Afghan War Logs’ and the ‘Iraq War Logs.’ Wikileaks in November 2010 published thousands of internal U.S. State Department messages that revealed massive amounts of bribery and other corruption in Tunisia, called ‘Cable gate.’

The Wikileaks revelations stirred up outrage across the Middle East that sparked street rebellions in Morocco, Iraq, Algeria, Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Sudan, Djibouti, Mauritania, Palestine, Saudi Arabia and Western Sahara under the slogan, “[The people want to bring down the Regime](#).”

Wikileaks’ editor Julian Assange became the U.S. State Department’s 2010 Public Enemy #1 when The Huffington Post in asked Secretary of State Hillary Clinton for a comment on a Wikileaks revelations about potentially corrupt USAID spending in Italy.

Shortly thereafter, two Swedish women reported Assange for having non-consensual sex. With local police launching an investigation and facing an arrest warrant for rape, Assange fled Sweden for Britain and life in the Ecuador embassy through late 2019.

OCCRP seamlessly overtook Wikileaks’ leadership to become the dominant clearing house for investigative journalism. But rather funding investigations of questionable U.S. activity, OCCRP supported global corruption investigations of American targets, like the [Panama Papers](#), and off-shore tax scams, like [Pandora Papers](#).

President Barack Obama whose grandmother and mother worked for USAID entities, drastically increased the agency's activities. As part of the 2015 adoption of the [UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), USAID was charged with leading \$100 billion investment and marketing the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change.

During the decade from 2014 and 2023, the U.S. federal government provided at least [\\$47 million](#), or 52%, of the \$90million in OCCRP funding. Other major contributors included NATO allies Britain and France, plus NGO's like Soros' Open Society.

Trump winning the 2016 presidential election shocked the Deep State. Congress responded during the lame-duck session before Trump took office in January 2017, by passing a [\\$250 million disinformation fund](#): "to build the capacity of civil society, media, and other nongovernmental organizations countering the influence and propaganda of the Russian Federation to combat corruption, prioritize access to truthful information."

OCCRP leveraged its clout as a founding partner of the Global Anti-Corruption Consortium that aimed to trigger criminal investigations or sanctions proceedings based on OCCRP's articles. GACC also received \$10.8 million directly from USAID, an unknown amount from CIA-backed [Transparency International](#), and even larger contributors from Open Society Foundations, Taiwan, and United Kingdom.

Swiss-based [NGO Advisor](#) ranked 'Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project' as 69th in the world among the top 500 non-governmental organizations in 2017.

OCCRP kept a low profile during the Trump first administration. But President Biden following his 2020 election appointed the former Obama administration's UN Ambassador Samantha Power as [USAID Administrator](#).

Power cranked up funding for members of the OCCRP consortium. The [Internews Network](#) NGO that since 2011 had been receiving about \$50

million per year from USAID, saw its annual funding spike to over \$115 million by 2023.

At January 2024 World Economic Forum in Davos, Internews Network President Jeanne Bourgault spoke in support of USAID's formal "[advertiser outreach](#)" policy to pressure corporate advertisers to create disinformation exclusion lists and redirect online budgets to only support approved news sources. Bourgault later in reference to Elon Musk [commented](#), "we've always had pollution in the information environment."

The Deep State has poured billions of dollars of tax-payer cash into combatting so-called misinformation and disinformation by targeting conservative media worldwide—all under the mask of "saving democracy."

According to a [USAID fact sheet](#), which has since been taken offline, the federal agency admitted in 2023 to "direct" spending \$268,376,000 in training and support for 6,200 journalists, assisted 707 non-state news outlets, and supported 279 media-sector civil society organizations dedicated to strengthening independent media.

President Trump 47 and the DOGE are now digging hard to discover all of the "dark payments" through other government institutions, NGO's and dummy-corporations.



February 27, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
 Secretary of Homeland Security
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security
 2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
 Washington, D.C. 20528

Re: SAVE

Dear Secretary Noem,

Congratulations on your recent appointment and confirmation as the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. DHS's mission of protecting our national security, beginning with a secure border, is critically important to America's future. We look forward to your dedicated leadership and appreciate your strong commitment to our great nation.

As you embark on this important task, we respectfully ask you to focus on another issue that is critical to our future - elections. Tasking the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, a component of the DHS, with prioritizing needed improvements to the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program would help us better detect noncitizens attempting to register and/or vote in our elections. As President Trump has explicitly conveyed, ensuring noncitizens do not vote in our elections is crucial to protecting the integrity of elections in our respective states; however, to vigorously and successfully assume this charge, improvements addressing current limitations within the program are vital.

In an effort to provide clarity, we have accumulated some specific enhancements which would address the current challenges including, but not limited to, data limitations (accessibility and accuracy) and financial shortcomings. Suggested improvements:

I. The ability to search multiple voters at once

States must currently enter each person individually for review in the SAVE system to verify citizenship status. This causes significant delays and overly burdensome staff time while attempting to identify the citizenship status of potential voters. By allowing multiple individuals to be searched at once, states can more efficiently identify non-citizens who are registering or attempting to register to vote.¹

II. Increase the quantity of identifying information users may utilize to identify individuals

Users must now have unique identifiers such as Alien Identification Numbers, naturalization numbers, or other similar DHS numbers to ascertain the citizenship status of individuals, yet these numbers do not generally come through the offices of election officials while conducting regular business. Alternatively, during the voter registration process, election officials come into possession of numerous unique identifiers such as date of birth, social security number, and driver's license number. When coupled with the names of individuals, allowing these types of unique identifiers which election officials already possess would allow election officials to more readily identify non-citizens attempting to register to vote.

III. Allowing states to use the SAVE at no cost

SAVE requires both a user fee and a recently increased fee per search. Considering election officials are utilizing this system to ensure noncitizens are not actively voting in state and federal elections, there should be no cost to election officials using federal resources to protect the integrity of said elections.

IV. Provide clear guidance on how and when state election officials may use the SAVE system

Some courts have restricted states from implementing usage of the SAVE system based on conflicting guidance on implementation. Clearly defining the usage parameters and implementation requirements of the system would allow more states to actively protect the integrity of elections without unnecessary interference.

¹ Alternatively, the DHS's United State Citizenship and Immigration Services could facilitate an efficient batch processing method to compare its system data to state-level data, at an agreed upon frequency.

February 27, 2025

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V. Notify states of applicants for naturalization

It would be helpful to know those who mark "Yes" on the USCIS Form N-400, Part 9, Question 2: "Have you EVER registered to vote or voted in any Federal, state, or local election in the United States?"

Through the implementation of these enhancements, state officials may better serve the entire country, not just their respective constituents. Disallowing interference from noncitizens in the elections process is a fundamental role we must not only assume, but champion. We are hopeful, through your support, significant advancements will be made to further protect the integrity of our state and federal elections.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you to integrate these advancements on behalf of all American citizens. We would be more than happy to meet with you, when convenient, to further discuss.

Sincerely,



Wes Allen
Alabama Secretary of State



Christi Jacobsen
Montana Secretary of State



Cole Jester
Arkansas Secretary of State



Robert Evnen
Nebraska Secretary of State



Brad Raffensperger
Georgia Secretary of State



David Scanlan
New Hampshire Secretary of State



Phil McGrane
Idaho Secretary of State



Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

February 27, 2025

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Diego Morales
Indiana Secretary of State



Josh Cockcroft
Oklahoma Secretary of State



Paul Pate
Iowa Secretary of State



Monae L. Johnson
South Dakota Secretary of State



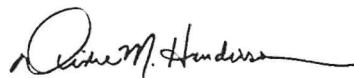
Scott Schwab
Kansas Secretary of State



Tre Hargett
Tennessee Secretary of State



Michael G. Adams
Kentucky Secretary of State



Deidre Henderson
Utah Lieutenant Governor



Nancy Landry
Louisiana Secretary of State



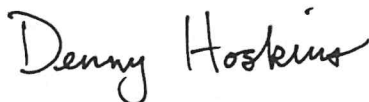
Kris Warner
West Virginia Secretary of State



Michael Watson
Mississippi Secretary of State



Chuck Gray
Wyoming Secretary of State



Denny Hoskins
Missouri Secretary of State

[LETTERS](#)

Letters to the Editor

Edited by Jim Buckley

MAR 10, 2025

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"We may be up a creek but at least we've got a paddle!"

(The following is just a trickle of some of the many comments, observations, claims, and suggestions received by Santa Barbara Current, a publication that is reader supported and receives no direct or indirect USAID or nonprofit funding. To enhance your reading experience, please follow the Comment thread that appears immediately after each column. If you'd like to contribute a letter to the editor, please send separately to jim@sbcurent.com, and add your city/town in your comment.)

Stop The Business Fee Increases!

The Board of Supervisors on Tuesday is going to consider approving fee increases charged to the business community from the Environmental Health Department. The SBCTAC opposes these fee increases. Essentially, my main opposition is based on my belief that Santa Barbara County is the most expensive place to do business on the Central Coast and that our neighbor counties to the north and south, do not charge their businesses as much as Santa Barbara County.

That begs the question as to why? Consequently, I have called on the Board to create a Citizens Advisory Committee that will review this fee increase proposal and all future fee-increase proposals to assess what 'comparable counties' (Ventura, SLO, and Monterey counties) charge. The Board of Supervisors used that process to justify their pay raise of 48% just two weeks ago. If that process is good enough for the Board to use to increase their salaries, it is good enough to use to assess what we charge our businesses and what comparable counties charge their businesses. If the Board truly cares about our businesses, they should be committed to charging no more than comparable counties are charging. The bottom line is our businesses should not have to pay more to do business in Santa Barbara County than what their counterparts pay in Ventura, SLO, and Monterey counties.

The SBCTAC will continue to be vigilant when it comes to supporting the business interests of businesses in Santa Barbara County. The SBCTAC will make the appointment of a Citizens Advisory Committee to review fee increase

proposals charged to the business community a top priority going forward. We intend to sponsor an initiative to deal with county government in 2026. If the board does not approve the appointment of this committee, we very well may include the creation of such a committee in an initiative that would mandate the Board to appoint such a committee.

STAY TUNED!

I urge you to oppose the fee increase proposal and support the appointment of a Citizens Advisory Committee as well. You can submit your comments via email to sbcob@countyofsb.org.

Mike Stoker

President & CEO, SBCTAC

Creek Ordinance

If City Council approves the proposed 'Creek Ordinance', a Barker Pass Rd City Creekside property owner can:

- 1) Sue the City for knowingly approving, issuing building permits for these five custom homes along Barker Pass Rd within the City/EHIA Boundaries.
- 2) Stop paying the current County tax bill until devalued property reassessed.

In 1979-1983, the City of Santa Barbara had flood maps and other engineering reports that were subject to intense review by the City, County and EHIA, prior to approving the "Vista del Montecito" 23-home development; 11 homes are in the City/12 homes in County. This review process is on microfilm in County Building & Planning archives.

Therefore, the City is liable for approving the five homes adversely impacted by the proposed 'Creek Ordinance,' and the County needs to reassess property valuations to *reduce* property tax on each parcel.

In my 45 years here, there has been *no* water in the culvert — so-called “creek” — except for a trickle in 1998.

Moreover, our planned development has a large grant of over a \$million obtained after the Thomas Fire that is under the jurisdiction of Montecito Fire to keep our subdivision Barker Pass Rd creek clean.

Think of the can of worms City is opening.

Property owners already have enough problems getting insurance without City adding another liability.

Denice Spangler Adams

Red State Republicans Are the Worst

Six-year Republican Congressman **Dan Crenshaw** from suburban Houston, TX is arguably the worst example of someone who isn't conservative. He is the opposite of “America First,” but who knows how to say the right things in a comfortable, wealthy, solidly Republican district and campaigns on the buzz issues that differentiate Republican voters from the wackos in the Democrat Party that don't stand a chance of getting elected in districts such as the Second Congressional District of Texas.

Once guys like Crenshaw traverse the first primary and win their first general election in districts like the TX Second, they are home free. The Party underwrites its incumbents and makes sure they aren't "primaried" by anybody who could force the incumbent to "waste" a lot of the Party's money on swatting unknown flies in the primary. Negative issues raised by primary challengers in the spring are used then by Democrat opponents in the fall. That takes *more* money in the Fall to ward off the Democrat candidate.

Tucker Carlson Network spliced together an 11-minute video from public addresses in which Carlson singled out Dan Crenshaw for hiding his falsely earned Republican credentials in Washington, D.C. while colluding with other

bipartisan Uniparty members on the biggest issues of the day. If Republicans and Democrats at the highest levels agree on the Big Picture issues, chances are it's the average America First working voter who isn't represented at the table where all the real decisions are made.

Just a few days ago, Dan Crenshaw doubled down on his threat to kill Tucker Carlson if the two ever met in public. Take 11 minutes to discover how and why Tucker Carlson has gotten under Crenshaw's skin, and that will most likely lead to a major primary contest in the Spring of 2026.

The battle for truly transforming the way our federal government makes policy and does business must take place mainly *within the Republican Party*. The big issues that divide the Republican Party from **Donald Trump** and America First must be fought in the next year and a half and America First must be the winner. Otherwise, *nothing significant will change in how America does business between the oceans or across the oceans*.

David Samuel McCalmont

Santa Barbara

DOGE Targeting California as Largest Federal Jobs State

Written by Chriss W. Street



[MOUNTAINOPTIMES](#)

MAR 08, 2025

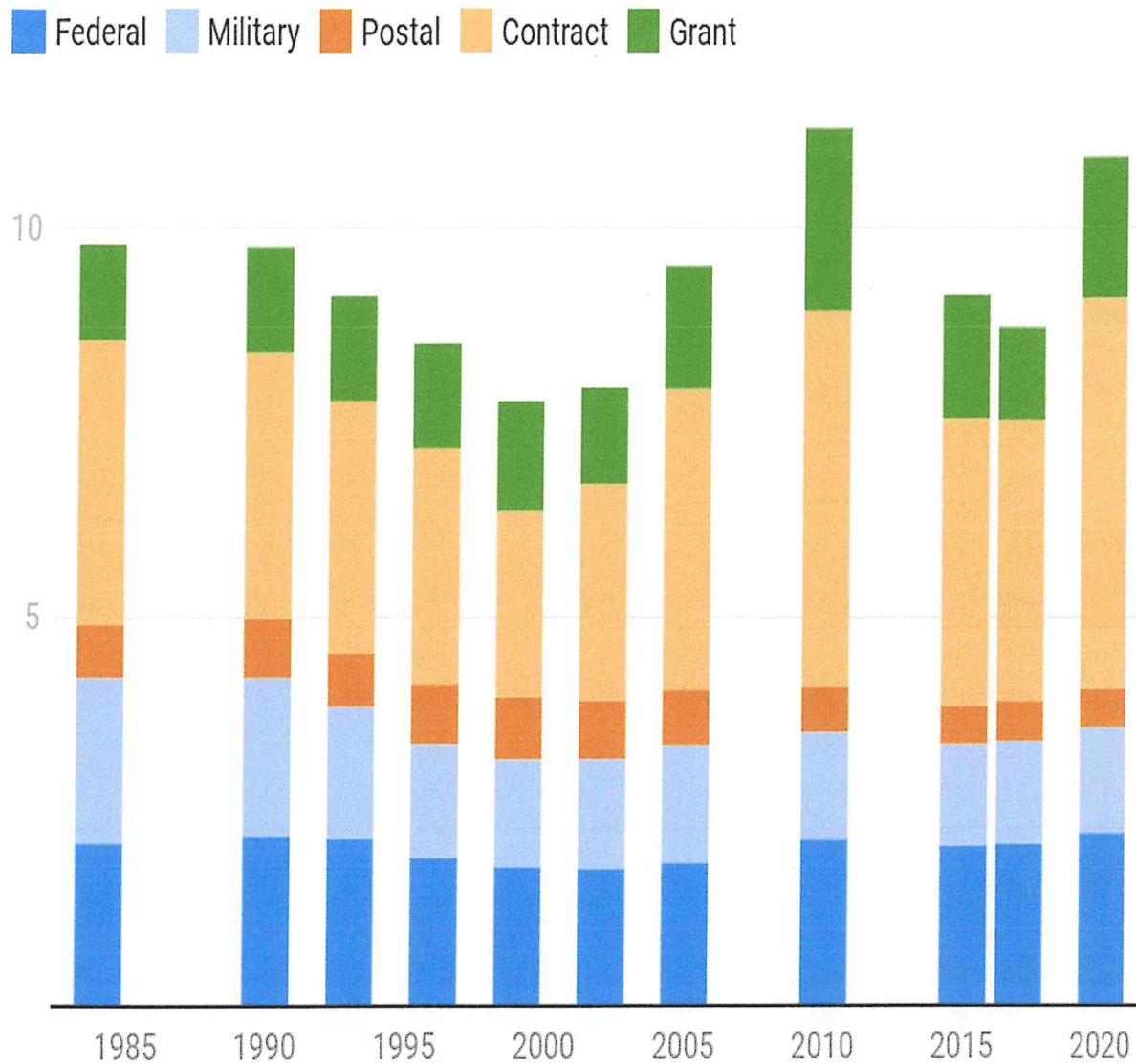
Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency "DOGE teams" that are charged with "carrying out spending cuts and modernization of federal technology and software to maximize governmental efficiency and productivity" will primarily be target California with 2 million federal jobs.

Governor Newson likes to hype that California with a gross domestic product of about \$4 trillion has been rated by the [International Monetary Fund](#) as the equivalent of the [5th largest economy in the world](#) since 2017.

The Golden State with 10.5% of U.S citizens and 12.5% of the American residents, has been receiving about 15% of all federal spending.

As a result, California has by far the [largest number of federal related jobs](#) with 253,600 direct federal workers, about the same number of people working in the state's real estate businesses, physicians' offices, or warehouses. But about 1.75 million Californians work indirectly for the feds as postal workers, active-duty military, contractors, and federal grantees.

The true size of government, 1984-2020



Newsom presented his \$492.881 billion proposed budget for 2025-2026 in January, claiming California's economy had grown by 6.1% to \$4.1 trillion. But key to continued growth is the projected \$170.6 billion of California direct federal funding, [up 87% from \\$97.2 billion five years ago](#).

California virtue signaled itself as the largest sanctuary state during the Biden administration, with at least 2 million new "undocumented workers."

This helps explain why federal spending on California has spectacularly accelerated, because about 59% of households headed by illegal immigrants receive one or more major federal welfare programs.

Texas that also is on the Southern border had the second largest number of direct federal jobs at 220,200, followed by states around the U.S. Capitol including Virginia with 191,900, the District of Columbia with 191,200, and Maryland with 161,200. But most states have few federal jobs, including Delaware with 6,700, Vermont with 6,800, Wyoming with 8,200, New Hampshire with 9,100, and North Dakota with 9,300.

President Trump 47 campaigned on creating a “deportation force” to round up illegal aliens. The February report from U.S. Homeland Security for Trump’s first month in office found that illegal immigration had crashed by 98%. Furthermore, [20% of current illegal aliens](#) now intend to self-deport.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Director Tom Homan has promised “a historic deportation operation” that promises to round up, detain, and deport about one million illegal aliens per year.

California has been living-large on the massive U.S. growth of illegal aliens. That worked when Joe Biden was president and Nancy Pelosi was Speaker of the House.

But the other 49 U.S. states are now demanding California be forced lose their extra 5% more of all federal jobs than ratio of citizens. That means California is at risk to lose 60,000 direct and 600,000 indirect federal jobs.

The Mountain Top Times believes California has entered an existential financial crisis and we will be publishing a series of reports on related issues.