

1



Katherine Douglas *Public Comment*

From: Thomas Becker <tbeckerpower@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 2:27 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Copy of comments read into the record, D1, BOS meeting 3/11/25
Attachments: BOS Battery final.pdf

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Please find attached a copy of my comments that I read into the record, D1, 3/11/25 BOS meeting.

T. Becker

3/11/25

Lithium-ion battery technology is prone to serious safety problems that were not properly addressed in the rush to push the technology into use. All Lithium-Ion battery types, after several years of use, can degrade, resulting in fires that are nearly impossible to extinguish, and burn at extremely high temperatures. When Lithium-ion batteries burn, they release toxic gases and particles. At Moss Landing, thousands of people were exposed to toxic gases and particles from a lithium-ion fire, resulting in illnesses that, in the short term and long term, may kill or cripple many of those people.

In their presentation, staff is claiming that the Lithium- Iron- Phosphate battery technology, or LFP, in use at the Goleta facility, is safer than the Lithium-Nickel- Manganese-Cobalt technology, or NMC, that was in use at Moss Landing. Staff omitted critical safety information about LFP batteries from their presentation. Several research papers available online demonstrate that LFP batteries, when in a lower state of charge, are potentially more flammable and toxic than NMC batteries. These research papers are available online, free of charge, and were available to staff when staff prepared their presentation.

There are other battery technologies that are far safer than Lithium - Ion.

If the Goleta facility were to have a fire, when weather conditions exist that keep the toxic plume close to the ground, thousands of people could be exposed to toxic gases and particles at high concentrations and

for long periods of time. Replacing the Lithium-Ion batteries currently in use with safer battery technologies may prevent a tragedy. There are no valid reasons to continue the use of Lithium-ion batteries when safe, low-cost alternatives exist.

T.Becker